ALL ABOUT HISTORY™

Outlaw: Ned Kelly

Crusading folk hero or simply a murderous bandit?



THE GREAT WAR

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- Pivotal leaders
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The wars, religious fervour and industry that built the world's mightiest kingdom

+ Haiti earthquake
Greatest love stories in history
Elvis Presley
Spanish Armada

The birth of Hollywood

How scrubland transformed into the glitz of Tinseltown

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ISSUE 15

From Bach to the Beatles

12-page guide to music throughout time

VISIT…



IMPORTANT NEW COIN ANNOUNCEMENT



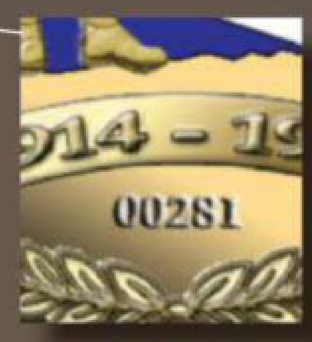
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Apply now and it may be yours for just £9.95

Shown larger than actual size of 38.6 mm in diameter

The Union Flag is proudly accented in full colour

Each coin uniquely numbered here



A new crown commemorating the First World War Centenary fully layered with pure 24 carat gold, yours for just £9.95

KEY DETAILS

EVENT: The First World War Centenary, honouring all who fought for their country

LIMITED RELEASE: The edition limit of this coin is 49,995. Only 1 in every 500 British households will be able to own one

AUTHENTICATION: Each coin is uniquely numbered and comes with a certificate of authenticity.

HIGH SPECIFICATION: Intended as a collectors' item this crown is fully layered with pure 24 carat gold and the Union Flag is accented in full colour

YOURS FOR ONLY £9.95 (plus £2.99 S&H)*: an informative Certificate of Authenticity is included FREE of charge and successful applicants enjoy other benefits (see right)

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM: This year marks the centenary of the First World War, the "war to end all wars". There are generations alive today who have no direct knowledge of this conflict or of the sacrifice made by all who fought for their country, making it more important than ever that we remember them with a lasting commemoration using the words from the famous 1914 war poem known as the 'Ode Of Remembrance'.

A crown coin has been released to mark this important anniversary. Struck to a high specification, **only 49,995 are available**. Applications are **now open** for the 'Ode Of Remembrance' Golden Crown, fully layered with **pure 24 carat gold and accented in full colour**, for just £9.95 (plus £2.99 S&H)*. This offer is likely to attract considerable interest, and not just from collectors.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

1. You may apply now to secure the 'Ode Of Remembrance' Golden Crown for just £9.95 (plus £2.99 S&H)*. A Certificate of Authenticity is included at no additional cost.
2. **Apply now**: Applications will be approved in strict order of receipt. if your application is successful you will be notified in writing within 7 days. Offer is limited to one coin per household.
3. Successful applicants will qualify to view the next coin in 'The First World War Centenary Crown Collection', a series of six gold layered crowns commemorating major campaigns of the First World War. These further crowns, which may be yours for only £29.95 (plus £2.99 S&H)* each will be sent at monthly intervals after your 'Ode Of Remembrance' Golden Crown. Each will be yours to view on approval for 14 days. You may cancel at any time.
4. To apply now, send the coupon below, or for priority call free on **0333 003 0019.** Lines open Mon-Fri 9.00am-8.00pm and Sat 9.00am-5.30pm.

***Calls to 0333 numbers are chargeable at local rates from both UK landline and mobile phones but they are also included in most network providers' 'free minutes' packages.**

FORMAL APPLICATION

YES, I wish to formally apply for the 'Ode Of Remembrance' Golden Crown, to be delivered to my UK mainland address, for just £9.95 (plus £2.99 shipping and handling). An informative Certificate of Authenticity is included, free of charge.

I do not need to send any money now. If my application is successful I will be notified in writing within 7 days.

I understand I can apply for only one coin, and that my application should be made within 7 days. I may return the coin within 14 days if I am not satisfied. I confirm I am aged 18 years or over. Applications are only open to UK mainland households and is limited to one coin per household.

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Charlie Chaplin was one of the most important figures in Tinseltown's early years - read about the birth of Hollywood on page 56

Welcome

What do you think is history's largest empire? Is it the Roman Empire, which contributed greatly to the development of laws, literature and technology? Perhaps it was the army of one of the world's great military conquerors, such as Alexander the Great. If you went for either of the two above then it's a good guess, but you'd be wrong. The largest empire in history is the British one built under the reign of Queen Victoria.

Under her steely gaze the small island nation at one point covered over a fifth of the earth's total land area and ruled over 400 million people. On page 46 our feature examines how Britannia came to rule the waves so that the sun never set on its empire.

One man who took up arms against an empire was the Carthaginian military leader Hannibal. Read about his arduous crossing of the Alps, how he took the fight to the great Roman Empire and about his troops - including mighty war elephants - on page 86.

Our opening section focuses on the wonderful world of music - to discover the anatomy of a punk rocker, learn about a day in the life of a Tudor musician and receive step-by-step advice on how to put on a music festival in the 1960s head on over to page 12.



Andrew Brown
Editor

Issue 15 highlights



Heroes & Villains
To some Ned Kelly is a folk hero to be admired, to others a murderous bandit; find out the real story behind Australia's famed iron-suited bushranger.



What if...
The mighty Spanish Armada of 1588 had defeated the British Navy and taken control of the English Channel? Could it have taken London?



WWI battles and leaders
Our 11-page feature focuses on the key battles, leaders and weaponry that defined the Great War, the first time warfare had been waged on an industrial scale.

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Meet ten musical revolutionaries who changed their chosen art form forever

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Host your own music festival in the style of the swinging Sixties

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Elvis Presley, the king of rock

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A 1980s punk rocker

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Of a Tudor musician trying to gain royal patronage

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Music was an important part of Greek culture and amphitheatres were where the best musicians would play to large crowds

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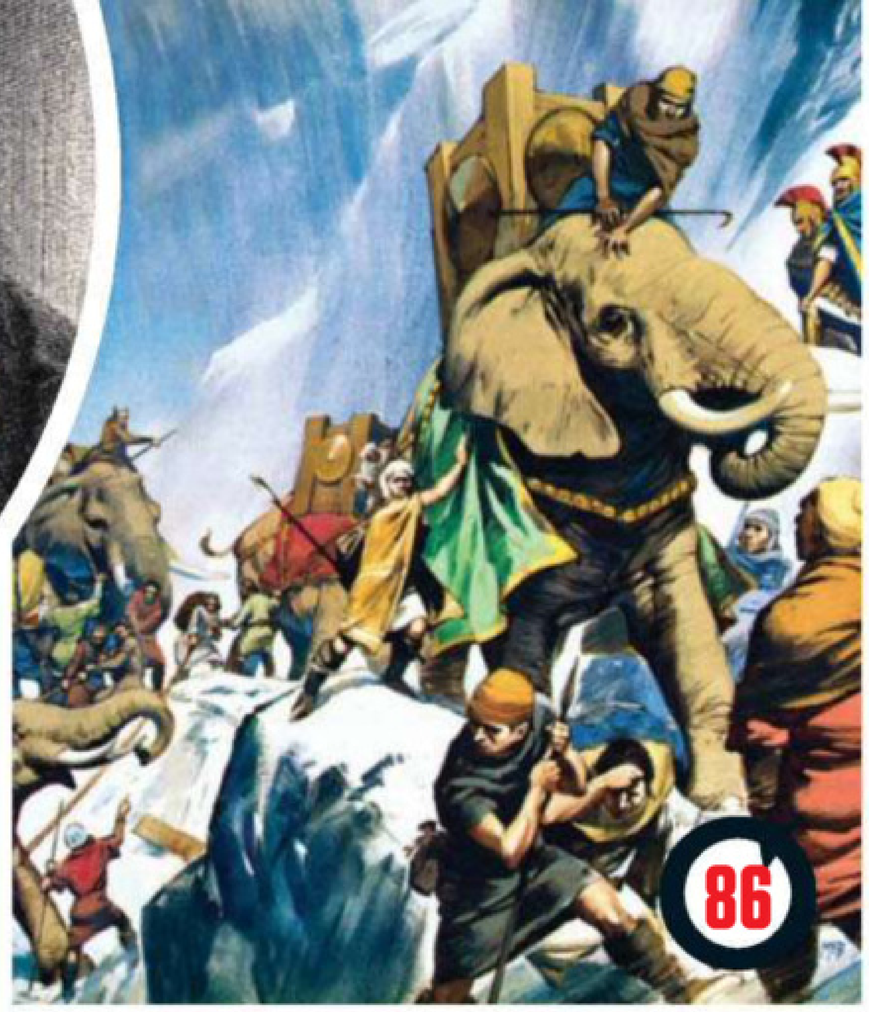
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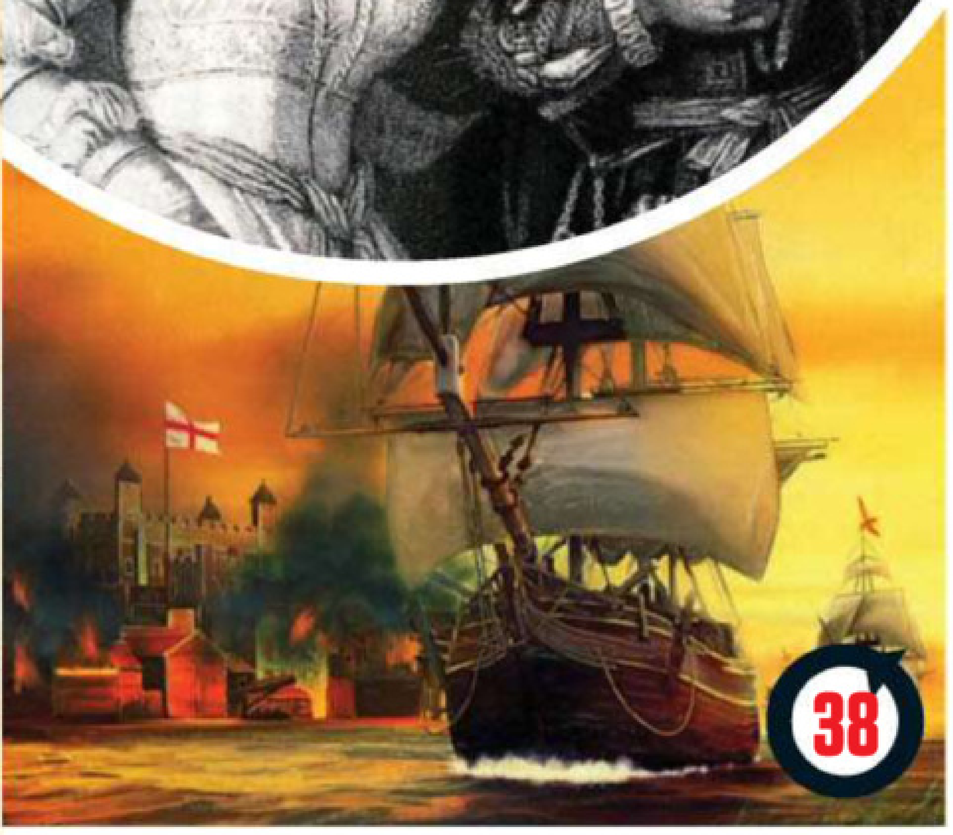
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How Hannibal took on the might of Rome with his seasoned army and fearsome war elephants













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HISTORY IN COLOUR

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

A newspaper and magazine vendor looks on as people browse his products on 23rd Street, east of Sixth Avenue in Manhattan, New York. US newspapers began in the 18th century but the beginning of the 20th century saw their popularity explode as new technology meant they became cheaper to make and therefore affordable to most people.

December 1902



© Colourisation by Dynachrome



DEFINING MOMENT

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

John F Kennedy and former Vice President Richard Nixon take part in USA's first-ever televised presidential debate. It was watched by more than 60 million Americans and while those who listened on radio thought Nixon won, most of those who watched gave it to the young, good-looking Democrat who looked at ease and confident on camera.

26 September 1960



© Corbis



DEFINING MOMENT

WAVE OF A DICTATOR

Major General Idi Amin waves as he drives on his way to meet Milton Obote, who had recently been overthrown. President Obote had ruled Uganda with an iron fist from 1966 to 1971, but Idi Amin would prove to be an even worse leader. He was responsible for the torture and death of tens of thousands of his citizens through the actions of his brutal secret police.

28 January 1971



© Corbis

Music

12 PAGES OF LEGENDARY SINGERS, MUSICIANS AND FESTIVALS

The Royal Albert Hall in London has staged the annual summer Proms concerts since 1941

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In Greek amphitheatres, successful ancient musicians plied their trade

Military band at the Queen's Official Birthday Parade, London, 2007

Dancers and flutists displayed in an Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphic

The 19th-century composer Richard Wagner is primarily known for his operas

The accordion was invented in 1829 by Cyril Demian

Simon Cowell's television show *The X Factor* is one of the most viewed and profitable programmes on television

1985's Live Aid was beamed to over 1.5 billion people in 160 countries in the biggest broadcast ever known at the time, raising tens of millions of pounds for charity

Music and dancing were given an important place in the education of young people in ancient Athens - here the girls dance to the music of a two-pipe flute

Frank Sinatra sold more than 150 million records worldwide

© Look and Learn; Corbis; Alamy

Hall of fame

REVOLUTIONARY MUSICIANS

From studious classical composers to rebellious rock gods, discover ten musicians whose work changed the world of music forever

Guido of Arezzo created the do-re-mi-fa-so-la mnemonic

Guido of Arezzo

ITALIAN 991 - UNKNOWN

A Benedictine monk, Guido is regarded as the inventor of modern musical notation. He noticed the difficulty singers experienced in remembering Gregorian chants and developed a method for learning chants quickly. He created the do-re-mi-fa-so-la mnemonic, which became the foundation for Western music notation. Guido's influence on modern music is immense and it is thanks to his work that early composers were able to record their work on manuscripts.



LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

GERMAN 1770-1827

One of the most historically significant composers of all time, Beethoven was incredibly influential in the transition from the 18th-century Classical era to the 19th-century Romantic era. Beethoven composed some of the most highly acclaimed and recognisable pieces in musical history, setting a precedent for the future scope and ambition of classical music. Known for adding new layers of expression and technical prowess to the classical form, Beethoven is credited as raising the prestige of music to outstrip even literature and art, paving the way for generations of musicians who followed in his stead.

Beethoven began to lose his hearing in 1800 but continued to compose new works

The Beatles

BRITISH 1960-70

With over 600 million records sold worldwide, the Beatles are the best-selling band in history. The Beatles' music spans a wide range of genres - from rock and roll, pop ballads and hard rock and they are known for altering classic aspects of music in new and innovative ways. The four-piece band from Liverpool gained masses of popularity in a craze known as 'Beatlemania', a wave of mass adoration that is commonly seen among fans of modern-day boy bands or teenage singers. The sequence for *Can't Buy Me Love* in the film *A Hard Day's Night* is also thought to be one of the earliest manifestations of the now popular music video.

The Beatles album *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* is the first British rock album to print the lyrics on the back cover

> "Life is more or less a lie, but then again, that's exactly the way we want it to be"
>
> *Bob Dylan*

Madonna

AMERICAN

1958-PRESENT

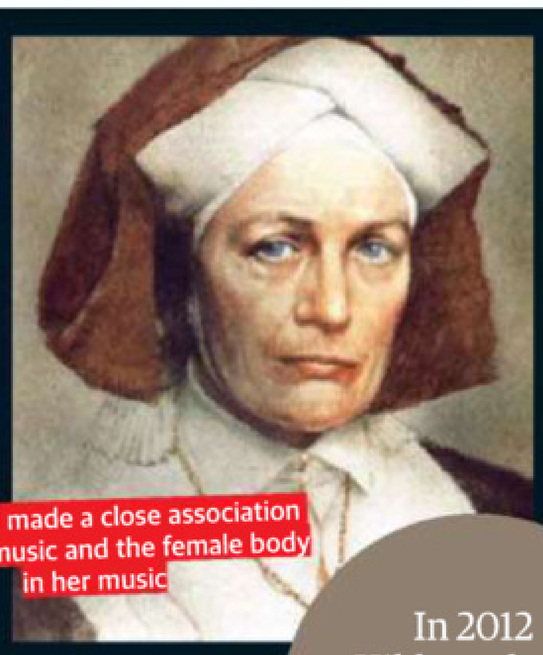
A cultural icon for over three decades, Madonna is known as the master of reinventing her image and music style. Often sparking controversy, through her career Madonna has pushed the limits of lyrical content and imagery in her music videos, truly redefining the entire genre of pop music. Her penchant for breaking boundaries and defying social norms has elevated her to the status of an icon in the LGBT community. Madonna is recognised as the best-selling female artist of all time and has influenced a multitude of artists, including Lady Gaga, Beyoncé, Rihanna and Britney Spears.

Frank Sinatra

AMERICAN 1915-1998

One of the best-selling artists of all time, Sinatra is considered by many to be the first teen idol singer. Young girls would flock to his shows, screaming and fainting. Before Sinatra emerged, big band performances would focus only occasionally on the singer but as audiences wanted to hear more of his unique voice the 'lead singer' became a major focus of performances.

As a teenager Sinatra was nicknamed 'Scarface' due to a scar that ran from his mouth to his jaw line



Hildegard made a close association between music and the female body in her music

ST HILDEGARD OF BINGEN

GERMAN 1098-1179

Hildegard of Bigen was one of the earliest known female composers of all time. Serving as a Roman-Catholic abbess, she wrote at least 69 musical compositions, making her repertoire one of the largest of all medieval composers. One of her most remarkable works, *Ordo Virtutum,* is regarded as the very first known musical drama. Saint Hildegard's work features a close relationship of music with text, something unseen in other religious chants of the period.

In 2012 Hildegard was elevated to a Doctor of the Church, a revered title



Michael Jackson has the highest-selling album of all time

Michael Jackson

AMERICAN 1958-2009

The 'King of Pop', was a pioneer of modern music in many different ways. With a career that boasted worldwide influence, Jackson helped to shape the fledgling MTV channel with innovative music videos that turned the genre into an art form, with the music video for *Thriller* seen as a high point. Jackson also popularised the idea of worldwide mega-tours – his *Bad* world tour spanned 15 countries, attracted 4.4 million people and grossed $125 million, the highest-earning tour of all time.

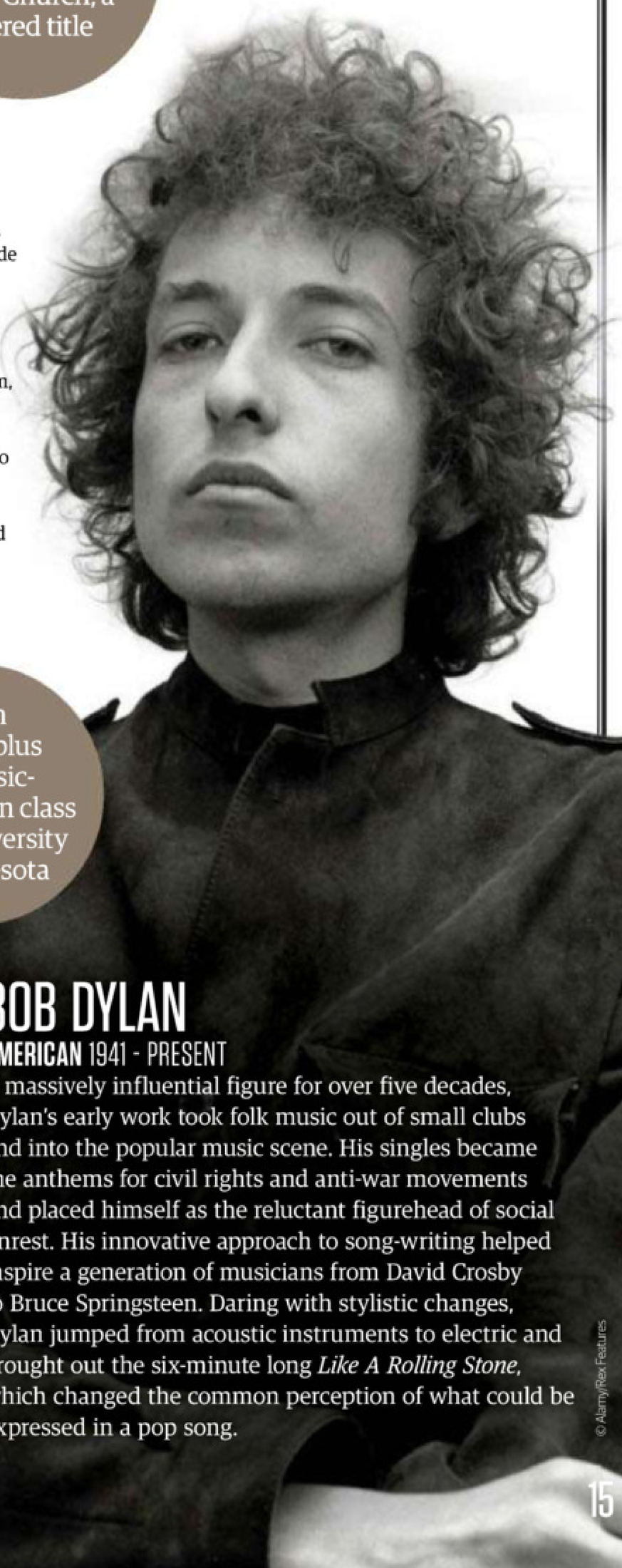


Madonna is the richest female artist of all time

Bob Marley

JAMAICAN 1945-1981

The unlikely poster boy of student rooms, Bob Marley was a singer from Jamaica whose music was heard around the world. Marley's popularity not only brought reggae to the mainstream, but also served as an inspiration for disenfranchised and oppressed people. Rising from poverty, Marley made his name by staying true to who he was rather than relying on flashy stage shows or costumes. Marley's influence can be felt strongly today in the hip hop and rap genres.



Dylan got a D-plus in a music-appreciation class at the University of Minnesota

BOB DYLAN

AMERICAN 1941 - PRESENT

A massively influential figure for over five decades, Dylan's early work took folk music out of small clubs and into the popular music scene. His singles became the anthems for civil rights and anti-war movements and placed himself as the reluctant figurehead of social unrest. His innovative approach to song-writing helped inspire a generation of musicians from David Crosby to Bruce Springsteen. Daring with stylistic changes, Dylan jumped from acoustic instruments to electric and brought out the six-minute long *Like A Rolling Stone,* which changed the common perception of what could be expressed in a pop song.

© Alamy/Rex Features

How to PUT ON A FESTIVAL

GET IMMERSED IN THE PEACE, LOVE AND MUSIC, A LARGE FIELD, 1960S

FESTIVAL SURVIVAL KIT



Tie dye
A style inspired by rock stars like Janis Joplin, nothing says 'peace and love' like all the colours of the rainbow blending together.

Canvas tent
In opposition to the polyester commonly used today, 1960s tents were usually made from natural fabrics like cotton canvas.

Lighter
Ideal for holding and waving above your head during a particularly moving night-time performance.

Tickets
Woodstock became a 'free concert' after numbers exceeded expectations, but usually you'll need to buy tickets months in advance.

Acoustic guitar
Essential for impromptu sing-alongs, flutes and drums were also used to create music in the artistic atmosphere.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

SHENG
1100 BCE, CHINA
Featuring 17 pipes, mentions of the Sheng have been found on oracle bones used for divination during the Shang dynasty.

HARPSICHORD
15TH CENTURY, ITALY
The harpsichord, played by plucking a string and pressing a key simultaneously, was popular in the Renaissance and Baroque eras.

GLASS ARMONICA
1761, USA
Inspired by the sounds of water filled glasses, founding father Benjamin Franklin created this instrument. It features 37 bowls mounted on an iron spindle.

THEREMIN
1928, RUSSIA
One of the earliest electronic instruments, the Theremin is controlled by two metal antennas and produces an eerie sound now found in film soundtracks.

GUITAR
15TH CENTURY, SPAIN
Although the modern guitar's design can be attributed to Antonio de Torres, its roots can be traced back to prehistoric bowl harps and tanburs.

Music festivals date as far back as the 6th century to the Pythian Games, where musicians would compete by playing flutes and string instruments. In the 1960s, music festivals morphed into cultural phenomenons, playing host to a big part of music history. Although the competitive aspect has faded, music festivals continue to grow in popularity, with new festivals popping up all over the world. Here, we guide you through how to hold your own festival and capture the Bohemian spirit of the legendary festivals of the 1960s.



01 Find a venue
Venue is an essential choice that dictates the sort of event you're holding. Most festivals in the 1960s were held in open places like fields and farms, rather than purpose built venues. Wherever you choose, make sure it's big enough to host your festival; your local park may be cheap, but is it ready to handle thousands of rowdy festival goers?



02 Book some acts
The bands you manage to book can make or break your festival. When Creedence Clearwater Revival signed up for Woodstock, other big acts clamoured to play. People won't travel for miles to watch your dad's jazz troupe. If you can't afford the big boys then consider choosing a cause like a charity as this could draw famous groups to your event.

How not to... spread peace and love

In 1999, a revival of the famous Woodstock concert was held in upstate New York. Attracting a crowd of 200,000 people, it aimed to replicate the feeling of unity synonymous with its namesake. However, a combination of oppressive heat, no shade, and limited and expensive food and water marred the festival. During a set by Limp Bizkit, fans took the song *Break Stuff* literally and started tearing plywood from the walls. Later people used candles, given out as part of a peace vigil, to light bonfires, using water bottles and plywood from security fences as fuel. As violence tore through the crowd, they broke into ATMs, burgled trailers and set vendor booths alight. Law enforcement quickly put an end to the madness and the festival with it. Although there were no fatalities, after the festival there were four allegations of rape. The last day of Woodstock 1999 is known as 'The day the music died.'





03 Create some buzz

You can book the world's biggest band, but nobody will come to a festival they don't know is on. Without social media, 1960s festivals have to rely on sponsors, newspaper ads and word of mouth to attract crowds. When Woodstock was banned by its first venue due to poor toilet facilities, the media hype surrounding the ban turned into a massive publicity boon.



04 Organise the catering

People will need to eat and hungry fans can turn violent. Ensure you have catering to provide for double the amount of people you're expecting. At Woodstock, 400,000 hungry fans chowed on hamburgers, hot dogs and, strangely enough, granola. Also, make sure your toilet facilities are decent, as lack of these can turn a great festival into a literal mess.



05 Pray to the weather gods

Although a fateful downpour during Travis' performance of *Why Does It Always Rain On Me?* produced an iconic moment at Glastonbury 1999, bad weather has put a damper on many a festival, even forcing early closure. Sadly, there's not really much you can do to control this, but praying to your deity of choice certainly can't hurt.



06 Rock out

You've finally sorted all the details and your festival is in full swing, so do remember to enjoy it. You could be part of a legendary musical moment that people will be talking about for years to come. Make sure to stay until the end, some of the most iconic performances - like Jimi Hendrix at Woodstock in 1969 - overran into the early hours.

4 LEGENDARY FESTIVALS

MONTEREY POP FEST

16-18 JUNE 1967

Seen as the beginning of the 'Summer of Love', the event was regarded as a template for all future music festivals.



WOODSTOCK

1969

A cultural touchstone for the late-1960s, to this day the festival is seen as a victory for music, peace and love.



LIVE AID

13 JULY 1985

A dual-venue concert held in the USA and UK at the same time, world famous acts played free of charge to raise money for the Ethiopian famine.



OASIS AT KNEBWORTH

10-11 AUGUST 1996

Viewed by many as the height of Britpop, Oasis performed to a crowd of over 250,000 fans over two nights.



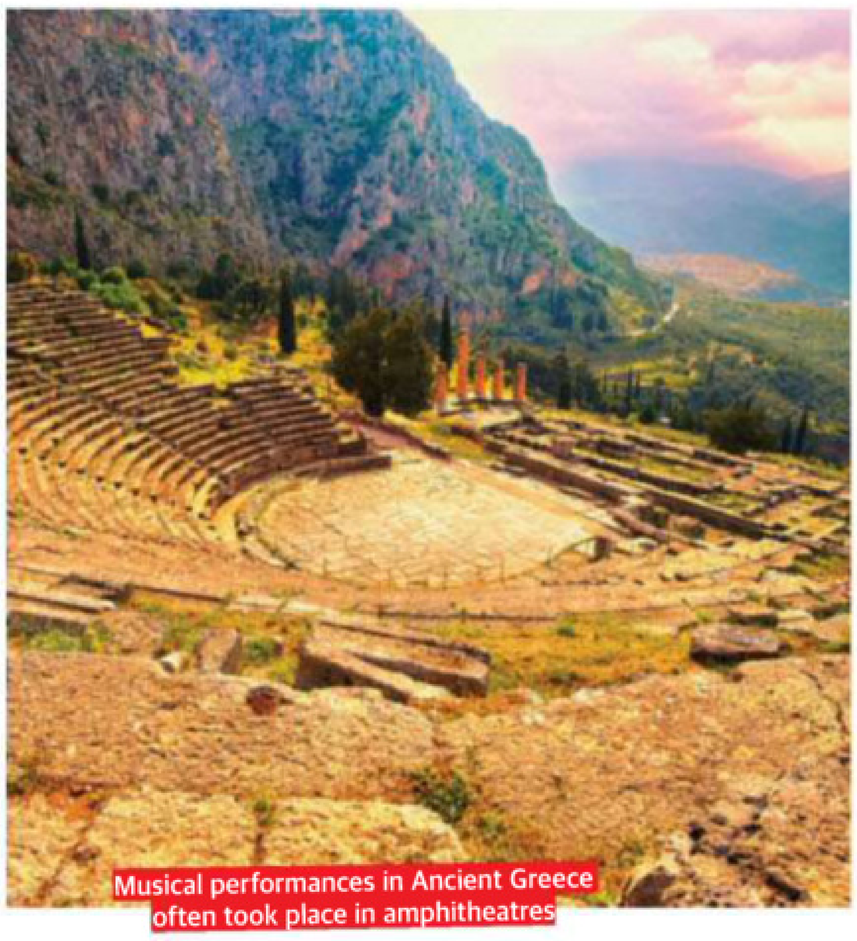
© Alamy/ Edward Crooks

Music across history

OF ONE VOICE

GREECE 535 BCE

One of the most popular forms of musical performance, the chorus, was formed in the plays of Ancient Greece. The Greek chorus consisted of a group of performers who through singing, dancing, music and mask-play, aided the progression of a play or drama, often augmenting the main player's words and actions for the audience. When engaging the audience, the chorus sang as a single body, adding power and emotion to the on-stage action. Today, the chorus is used heavily in many forms of musical entertainment.



Musical performances in Ancient Greece often took place in amphitheatres

The ultimate instrument

SPAIN 1200

Two musical instruments are referred to in Spain as 'guitars', the guitarra latina (Latin guitar) and the guitarra moresca (Moorish guitar). The Latin variant has a narrow neck and a single sound hole in its body – like most guitars today – while the Moorish type has a fatter and rounder build, with a wide fingerboard and multiple sound holes. By the 16th century the Baroque guitar, which has five strings and a gentle hourglass shape, had become the dominant stringed instrument in many European countries. The emergence of the electric guitar, however, would have to wait until over 400 years after that.



A depiction of a woman playing a Baroque guitar by Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer

Music timeline



Troubadours were popular performers during the High Middle Ages

Aurignacians play the flute
The Upper Palaeolithic Aurignacian peoples of Europe and southwest Asia create their own wooden flutes. Some of them survive to the present day where they are excavated and dated.
45000 BCE

Stop! Pope time
Pope Gregory I collects and arranges the Christian religious chant, with a codified version entitled the 'Gregorian chant' in his honour.
590

Troubadours have the X factor
Troubadours, composers and performers of Old Occitan lyric poetry and music, spread from Occitania to Italy, Spain and Greece, becoming incredibly popular in Europe.
1100

A Renaissance man
Dutch composer Josquin de Prez becomes the first music scholar to popularise the polyphonic vocal music of the High Renaissance.
1500

Stuck between Baroque and a hard place
The varied and inventive musical forms of the Renaissance are largely replaced with the strict compositions of the Baroque era.
1600

A female composer dies
Arguably the first famous female composer of the West, Francesca Caccini, passes away after writing the music for at least 16 staged works.
1641

45000 BCE | 0 CE | 1000 | 1500

Hathor invents music
The Ancient Egyptians attribute the creation of music to the goddess Hathor, who also personifies the principles of joy and feminine love.
2686 BCE

Music is everywhere
Music becomes a central part of society in Ancient Greece, being played on instruments such as the lyre at weddings, funerals, religious festivals and even in the theatre.
600 BCE

Guido notates
Italian musical theorist Guido of Arezzo invents the modern form of musical notation, replacing the pre-existing neumatic notation.
1030

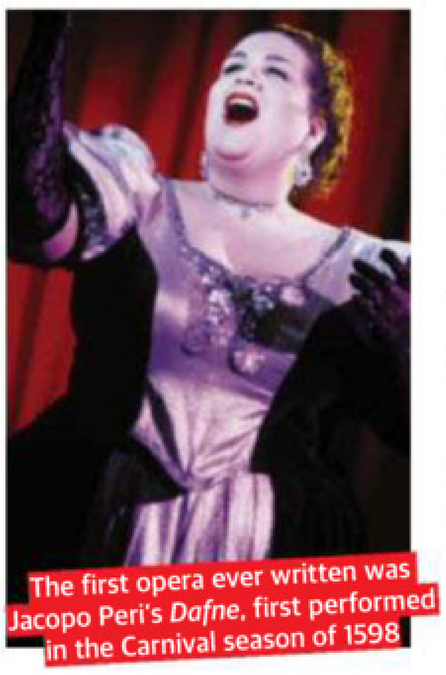


A statue of Guido of Arezzo

Notre Dame becomes key
The Notre Dame School of Polyphony becomes central to the development of music in the late Middle Ages, with the motet – a piece of music with several parts and with words – created.
1250

The castrati rise
The practice of male castration becomes popular in the Roman Catholic Church, in order to prevent boys from having their voices broken at puberty.
1550

Women can sing
Thanks to the evolution and popularity of the court masque – an event that includes music, dancing, singing and acting – women are finally allowed to take up professional singing.
1631



The first opera ever written was Jacopo Peri's *Dafne*, first performed in the Carnival season of 1598

Musical performance

ITALY 1598

Florentine humanist Jacopo Peri, along with other members of the Camerata de' Bardi – a group of musicians, poets and intellectuals – composed *Dafne*, the earliest piece of work to now be considered an opera. Following with the Renaissance's revival of Ancient Greek culture, *Dafne* told the story of the Greek god Apollo as he fell in love with the eponymous nymph, Daphne. Unfortunately, despite Peri's work being well received by Florence's ruling Medici family, today it is largely lost. However, while not reviving Greek drama as Peri wished, *Dafne* did proceed to establish a new music form that would still be popular over 400 years later.



A romanticised depiction of the great violin maker Antonio Stradivari

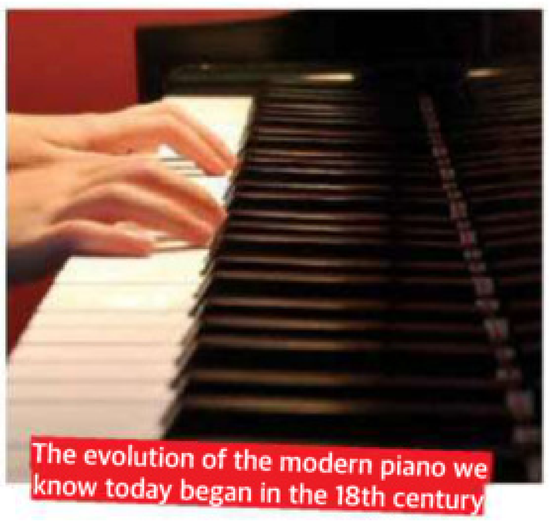
Works of art

ITALY 1700

Building on the existing legacy of string instruments, Italian luthier Antonio Stradivari produced over 450 violins during his lifetime, with those built between 1700 and 1730 considered to be part of his 'golden age.' Today these instruments are thought of as the best violins in the world and Stradivari as the greatest violin maker in history. Individual instruments often sell at auctions for huge amounts of money, such as the famous Barn von der Leyed Stradivari violin, which sold for £1.5 million ($2.6 million) in 2012.

Black and white keys
ITALY 1720

Renowned Italian instrument maker Bartolomeo Cristofori invented the piano, with most of the features of a modern example. The instrument was not initially well received, with critics stating its sound too soft and dull. Despite the criticism and the high cost of building the instrument, Cristofori continued to build more and by 1760, where technological advancements had meant that the compact square piano could be produced, the piano caught on and soon became a dominant instrument of the European middle and upper classes.



The evolution of the modern piano we know today began in the 18th century

A BOY GENIUS
AUSTRIA 1756

The most prolific and influential composer of the Classical era, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a child prodigy, learning to play not just the keyboard and piano before he was five, but also how to compose music. From this young age Mozart composed constantly and at the age of 17 he was hired as a court musician in Salzburg. Despite the prestige that came with his position, Mozart soon grew restless and proceeded to travel through Europe in order to gain fame and fortune.

While fame was to come, with Mozart's operas well received in both Munich and Vienna, lasting wealth never materialised, with him and his family put under financial distress toward the end of his life. Even though Mozart died young at the age of just 35, he left over 600 composed works, many which are now considered the foremost examples of classical music ever written. Today, Mozart is considered one of the most talented musicians of all time, with his works constantly revived.



Mozart's brilliance as a composer only became fully recognised after his death

No 5 in C minor
German composer and pianist Ludwig van Beethoven finishes his *Symphony No 5 In C Minor*, which goes on to be voted as the most famous piece of classical music of all time.
1808



Beethoven started to go deaf when he was just 25 years old

An orchestra is founded
The oldest of London's orchestras, the London Symphony Orchestra, is founded and proceeds to go on its first tour of the country in the following year.
1904

Guitars are electrified
The first electrically amplified guitar is designed by the general manager at the National Guitar Corporation, George Beauchamp. The electric guitar goes into mass production five years later.
1931



Portable music power
Sony markets the Walkman, a portable stereo system that can be used by people to listen to music while out and about.
1978

Ol' Blue Eyes passes
One of the most famous singers of the 20th century, Frank Sinatra, passes away at the age of 82 in West Hollywood, California.
1998



Sinatra was the biggest-selling artist of the Fifties

Music streaming is here
Spotify, the first commercial music streaming service, launches and becomes incredibly popular. As of 2014 the service has over 40 million users worldwide.
2008

1900 — 2014

Figaro can't get hitched
Legendary classical composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart premieres his most famous of works, *The Marriage Of Figaro*, in Vienna, Austria.
1786

Music is captured
Renowned US inventor Thomas Edison invents the phonograph, kickstarting the age of recorded music with it.
1878

Jazz comes of age
The Original Dixieland Jazz Band become the first group to make a jazz recording, releasing the first-ever jazz single *Livery Stable Blues* shortly after.
1917

Columbia introduces the long play
Columbia Records introduces the long play 33⅓rpm microgroove vinyl record, helping to usher in the album era.
1948

Bye bye Beatles
After dominating the popular music industry for almost a decade, The Beatles break up.
1970



A thrilling album is released
Pop-music sensation Michael Jackson releases the album *Thriller*, which proceeds to sell over 25 million copies. It is officially recognised as the best-selling album of all time.
1982

iTunes is born
US computer company Apple releases its iTunes Music Store, an online music shop where songs and albums can be downloaded off the internet.
2003

Value for money
GERMANY 1876

The first-ever production of famous German composer Richard Wagner's *The Ring Of The Nibelung* – commonly referred to as the *Ring Cycle* – was first performed at the Bayreuth Festspielhaus, a specially built music hall just north of Bayreuth, Germany. The *Cycle* comes in four parts and tells an epic story based on characters from the *Old Norse Sagas*, with the total runtime of the piece stretching to over 15 hours. Due to the length of the work, the first performance began on 13 August 1876 and only concluded four days later, with the work split over multiple nights.



The blues remains a popular music form in the USA – here President Barack Obama sings

America's got the blues
USA 1890

The blues developed in the African-American communities of the US South, with amateur musicians composing and playing for their own or their close community's interest. By 1910, the blues became a recognised music genre, with sheet music produced and musicians forming professional bands. In 1920, Mamie Smith went down in history as the first African-American artist to make vocal blues recordings.



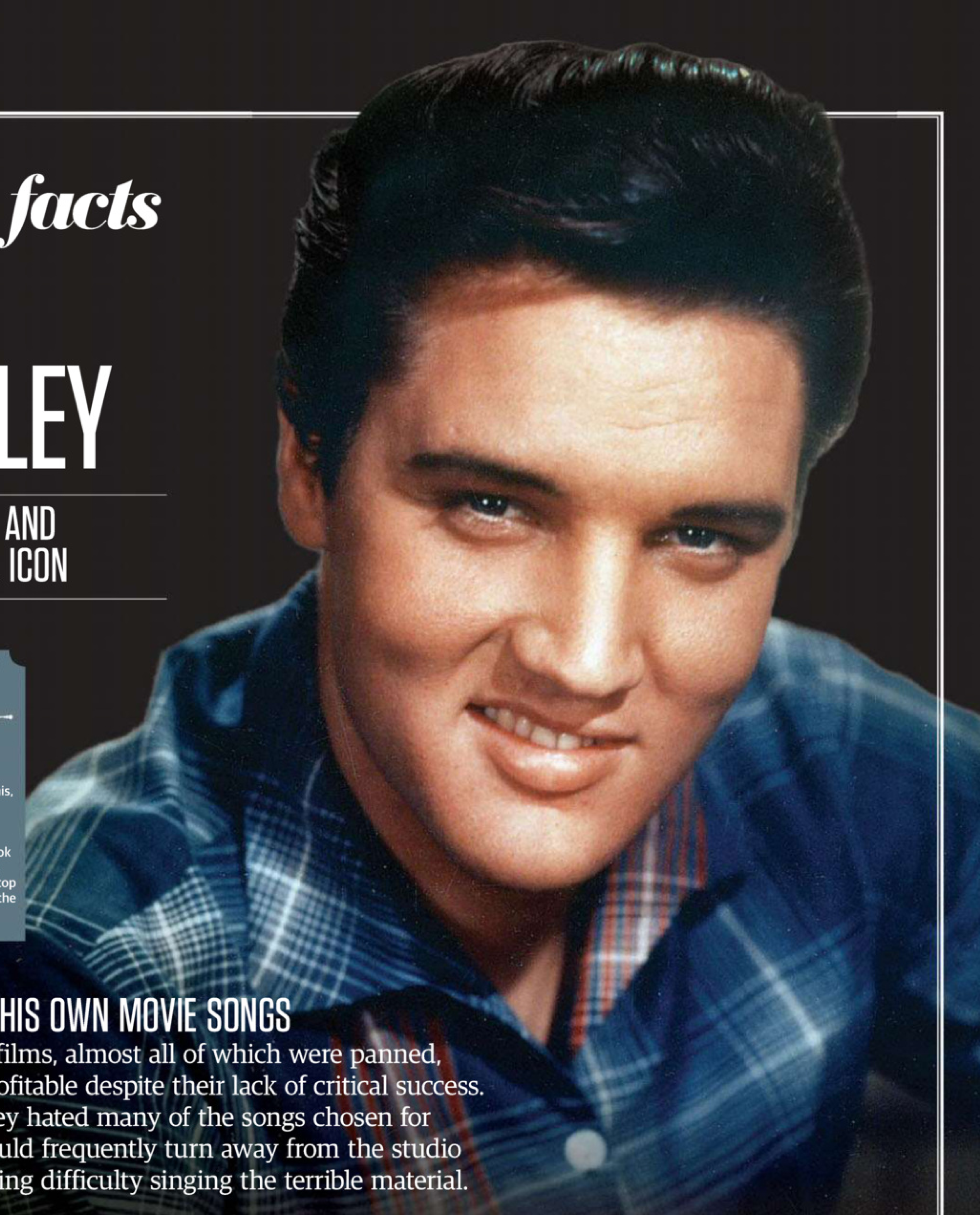
Madonna is Earth's highest-paid musician

She is a material girl
USA 2013

US pop singer Madonna cemented her position as the world's highest-paid musician with her latest tour grossing a whopping £180 million ($305 million). With £74 million ($125 million) of that going to the singer, her worth rose to £295 million ($500 million), a new record for a musical artist. Madonna began her career in 1979, forming the Breakfast Club rock band, before going solo in 1981.

Top 5 facts
ELVIS PRESLEY

SINGER, ACTOR AND INTERNATIONAL ICON



ELVIS AARON PRESLEY
American, 1935-1977

Brief Bio

Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi and moved to Memphis, Tennessee when he was 13 years old. After a string of rejections and failed auditions, his music career took off in 1954. In 1956, his single *Heartbreak Hotel* shot to the top of the US pop charts, setting the precedent for the worldwide success that followed.

01 HE HATED HIS OWN MOVIE SONGS

Presley made 31 films, almost all of which were panned, but they were profitable despite their lack of critical success. Reportedly Presley hated many of the songs chosen for his films and would frequently turn away from the studio microphone, having difficulty singing the terrible material.

02 America was shocked by his dancing moves

When Presley first performed without a guitar in 1956 his gyrating hips caused outrage across the US, earning him the nickname Elvis the Pelvis. Subsequently a Florida judge dubbed him a "savage" with music that was "undermining the youth." When his unique dancing was forbidden at a gig, he waggled his finger in protest instead.

03 He had a pet chimpanzee

Presley adopted a chimpanzee called Scatter in the early-1960s. Scatter was infamous for causing trouble and was known for pulling up women's dresses and skirts, a trait that Elvis found very amusing. Presley also dressed the chimp in suits, Hawaiian shirts and caps and had him chauffeured around the city.

04 He was convinced people were plotting his death

When four men rushed onto the stage during one of his shows, Presley became obsessed with the idea that Mike Stone, the man his wife cheated on him with, was trying to kill him. He raged that "Stone must die" and his bodyguard got a quote for a contract killing but Presley decided to abandon the idea, saying it was all "a bit heavy."

05 Criminals reformed because of his music's inspiration

A criminal serving a four-month sentence in jail for stealing tyres heard Presley's 1960 hit *It's Now Or Never* while behind bars. He was so inspired that he vowed to pursue a career in music once he had been released. That young man later went on to become the three-time Grammy-winning artist and international icon Barry White.

© Alamy



PIERCING

PUNCHING HOLES IN SOCIETY

Previously uncommon in the West, the punk movement propelled the popularity of piercings into widespread consciousness. Frequently used to express individuality, punks were often seen with piercings of the navel, nose, eyebrows, lips and tongue, sometimes featuring nontraditional adornment like safety pins.

TATTOOS

PUNK IS MORE THAN SKIN DEEP

The 1980s saw conservative policies of Thatcherism sweeping through the British nation. With strong anti-establishment beliefs, punks were eager to separate themselves from the mainstream sheep of society and adorning their bodies with provocative tattoos was the perfect way to do this. Common tattoos were skulls, band names, curse words and anything rude or offensive, as far as tattoos went – the more shocking the better.

POLITICAL T-SHIRT

WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE, OR ON YOUR TORSO

The punk movement grew amongst mass frustration of youths who felt rejected from the mainstream and wanted their voices to be heard. This self-expression often manifested itself in T-shirts bearing shocking or offensive messages. Political slogans such as 'Anarchy in the UK', anti-establishment views and band names were commonly found emblazed on the torsos of punks.

BIG CHUNKY BOOTS

STAND ABOVE THE IGNORANT MASSES

Essential for protecting toes in the carnage that was the mosh pits, the punk footwear of choice was big, black military style boots with chunky heels or platforms, with Dr Martens the common brand of choice. Traditionally lace ups, later large metal buckles, chains and spikes gained popularity.

MOHAWK

HAIRSPRAY SALES GO THROUGH THE ROOF

Originating from the Mohawk tribes of North America, traditional mohawks were created from individually plucking strands of hair, but punk rock styles were usually shaved. Mohawks and spiked hairstyles were dyed in an array of vivid colours and punks competed to achieve bigger, more outrageous styles.

THE *Anatomy of*

A PUNK ROCKER

ANTI-ESTABLISHMENT, NONCONFORMIST YOUTH

1980, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, AUSTRALIA

CUSTOMISED LEATHER JACKET

ALWAYS IN LEATHER, WHATEVER THE WEATHER

The most essential garment in the punk wardrobe, the biker-style leather jackets worn by punks were usually customised by the owner. Common features of these DIY jackets were studs, band logos, pins, buttons and spikes. A blank canvas for self-expression, plain black jackets were bought and deliberately torn and painted.

CASSETTE PLAYER

IF YOUR EARS AREN'T RINGING YOU'RE DOING IT WRONG

The punk rock phenomenon found its roots in a new musical movement which rejected mainstream music. Far from the sentimentality of 1970s rock, punk rock music was aggressive, wild and rebellious. The portable cassette player erupted in popularity in the late-1970s and transformed music from a pastime enjoyed in the home to a portable and wearable means of escapism from the real world.

© The Art Agency / Jean Michel-Girard

Day in the life

A TUDOR MUSICIAN

PURVEYORS OF MUSIC AND BEAUTY IN THE RENAISSANCE, ENGLAND, 1485-1603

The Tudor dynasty introduced a period of great cultural and artistic change in England, known as the English Renaissance. Henry VIII and his daughter Elizabeth I were both huge supporters of arts and music, transforming their courts into centres of artistic innovation. As the monarchy's interest in music increased, the country quickly followed suit and all young men of nobility were expected to be able to play an instrument. Skilled musicians were sought after throughout the country and from the royal courts to small village fetes, the everyday life of a Tudor musician was busy, varied and fulfilling.

1 PROVIDE MUSIC FOR MORNING EXERCISE

Dancing was a popular form of exercise in Tudor England, enjoyed by the royal family. Every morning, court musicians would provide the soundtrack to the morning dance, and the new kinds of music played by the musicians led to the creation of many new court dances. Queen Elizabeth I especially enjoyed dancing and employed 70 musicians to play for her.



Dancing was regarded as exercise to refine both the body and mind

2 PLAY IN CHURCH

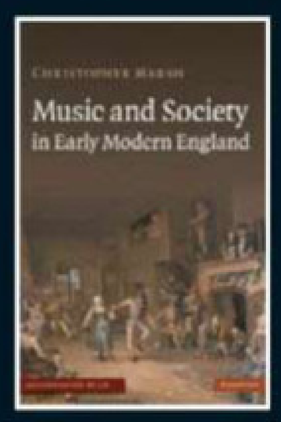
Religion was hugely important - and volatile - during the Tudor era, as Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church and formed the Church of England, which threw the country into turmoil, with frequent shifts between Catholic and Protestant leaders. Many jobs opened for musicians within the church as choirmasters, singers and to play instruments during masses. Almost 80 musicians served Henry VIII in the Chapel Royal and accompanied him around the country.

3 TEACH CLASSES

The skill to play an instrument was highly valued in the court of the Tudor monarchs, so noble families were eager for their children to be taught the art. It was common for musicians to spend time teaching in schools and universities and members of the royal family often received one-on-one tutoring with music teachers.

How do we know this?

The book *Patrons And Musicians Of The English Renaissance* provides a study of the emergence of a music profession as well as the social environment that helped to nurture it. It also explores the relationship between patrons and their musicians. Also helpful was the text *Music And Society In Early Modern England*, a comprehensive study of the multiple roles of musicians which utilises sources such as ballads, court records, diaries and wills from the era.



The first English string quartet, the English consort, emerged in the Tudor era and featured a violin, flute, lute and viol

"Many jobs opened for musicians within the church as choirmasters, singers and to play instruments"



New instruments, such as the spinet, rose in popularity across Europe



Henry VIII was an accomplished musician, composer and dancer

1 PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT AT A PUBLIC GATHERING

Music was enjoyed by the rich and poor alike and each town had a band of musicians known as waites. A wait would play their own original music at public occasions, welcome royal visitors by playing at the town gates and even wake townsfolk on dark winter mornings by playing beneath their windows. Street musicians or travelling minstrels, however, were looked down upon.

2 LEARN A NEW INSTRUMENT

Many new instruments emerged in the Tudor period and it was essential that musicians kept up with the current trends. These new instruments included the hautboy - an early form of the oboe and the viol - an early violin. New versions of the ever-popular lute also emerged, such as the chitarrone lute, which was 183 centimetres (six feet) tall.

3 COMPOSE A SYMPHONY

The introduction of new instruments helped to create a new, refined sound, and these instruments were used in combination to produce unique music, an immediate precursor to the modern orchestra. This led to the emergence of talented Tudor composers such as William Byrd and Thomas Tallis, who received fame and popularity for their work.

4 GET WORK PRINTED

The Tudor period introduced the publishing of music to a market of amateur, would-be musicians. A musician who wished to publish their work would first have to receive special permission from the monarch. Music and song lyrics were both printed, however they would be sold separately, which proved to be a lucrative practice as John Dowland's *First Booke Of Songes Of Ayres* quickly became a best-seller.

5 PLAY FOR THE ROYAL COURT

The Tudor monarchs were great supporters of the arts and music. Queen Elizabeth I was a patron of all the arts and actively encouraged artists, actors and musicians, while Henry VIII was a talented musician himself, able to play a multitude of instruments. The court transformed into a celebration of musical culture, drawing the best musicians from England and other parts of the world, to play for the aristocracy.

© Getty, Alamy

INSIDE HISTORY

GREEK AMPHITHEATRE

PLAYING TO THE CROWDS, ANCIENT GREECE, 5TH CENTURY BCE

Although the amphitheatre is most commonly associated with gladiatorial games, with men fighting each other – and fearsome animals – to the death, in Ancient Greece it was a place for the best musicians and actors to perform. While Rome's spectacular Colosseum is perhaps the most famous example of an amphitheatre, in reality most were much smaller. An amphitheatre is simply a circular or oval building with a central space for the presentation of dramatic or sporting events watched by spectators.

The most elaborate featured multi-storey, arcaded façades and were elaborately decorated with marble, stucco and statuary and could hold several tens of thousands of spectators, but the majority were smaller venues where a community could gather to be entertained by actors, dancers and, of course, musicians.

"A Greek not involved with the arts was considered to be lacking something and not a 'complete' person"

The gods

In Ancient Greece music was viewed as quite literally a gift from the gods. The invention of specific instruments was attributed to particular deities: Athena, the goddess of – among other things – courage, wisdom and inspiration, was thought to have created the aulos (flute). In Greek mythology the Muses personified the various elements of music and were said to entertain the gods on Mount Olympus with their divine music, dancing and singing.

Skene

In a normal Ancient Greek amphitheatre, there was a building behind the playing area that was originally a hut just for the changing of masks and costumes. Over time this eventually became the background before which the drama was enacted and by the end of the 5th century the wooden skene had been replaced by a permanent stone structure.

The orchestra

The orchestra was a flat area (often a circle) that was sometimes paved. It was the heart of the building, as it was where the actors and musicians performed. As it was in the centre of the building, all the spectators would have a good view of the action.

Parados

The two openings between the skene and where the audience sat were called parados and were used for entrances by actors and musicians to enter the stage and play to the waiting crowd.

Spectators

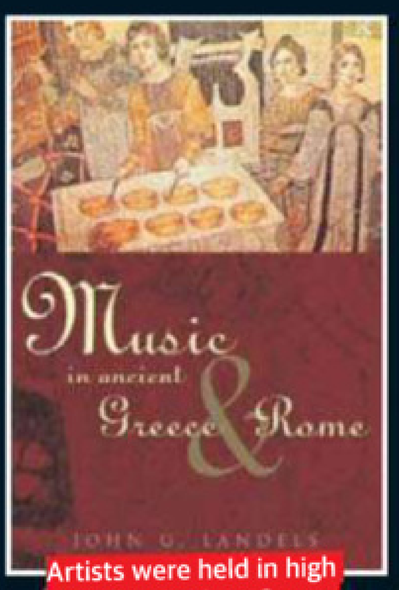
Social class and occupation largely determined seating, with council members and priests sitting in prime seats in the front rows where they could get a better view of the entertainment. Most citizens would attend, as a Greek not involved with the arts was considered to be lacking something and not a 'complete' person.

Hill

The amphitheatres were usually cut out of the side of a hill and so made use of their natural surroundings to create terraced seating. Most of these theatres held between 15,000 and 20,000 people and notable Greek amphitheatres include the Theatre Epidaurus and the Theatre of Dionysus in Athens.

How do we know this?

The Ancient Greeks left good records of different aspects of their society, including music, and some primary sources still remain. The most visual of these are the amphitheatres that still stand to this day. A number of websites provided useful information for the writing of this article and the book *Music In Ancient Greece And Rome* provided a clear and concise look at the important social role the arts played in these two societies, especially in Ancient Greece.



Artists were held in high regard in Ancient Greece

Performers

Music (or mousike) was an integral part of life in the Ancient Greek world. The term covered music as well as dance, lyrics and the performance of poetry. A wide range of instruments were used to perform music, which was played on occasions as varied as religious ceremonies, festivals, private drinking parties, weddings, funerals and military and athletic activities.

Complete citizens

Music (and theatre) was an essential part of life. As part of their civic education and duties, all men were expected to learn how to participate in musical and theatrical events as spectators and as participants. To deny or neglect either would be to lose part of themselves, and they would not be viewed as a well-balanced person.

© Sandra Doyle

Heroes & Villains

Ned Kelly

The outlaw whose stand against injustice and corruption made him an Australian folk hero

Written by Jerry Glover

In his brief life, Edward 'Ned' Kelly was one of the last bushrangers, runaway convicts who lived in the Australian outback robbing to survive. With bushranging flourishing in his time, he could easily have been just another desperado in the annals of crime. Yet his radical actions and controversial motives – as well as a home-made suit of armour – made him equally celebrated as a hero against injustice and reviled as a vengeful killer.

Two events in 1866 when he was ten showed Ned Kelly's strong sense of identity and proclivity for leadership. Shortly after finishing a sentence of six months' hard labour, his Irish-born father, John 'Red' Kelly, died at Avenel in southeast Victoria and the young Ned completed his death certificate. Ned described a nation that had "destroyed, massacred and murdered" his Irish forefathers, and transported them to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) "to pine away in starvation and misery among tyrants worse than the promised hell itself." That year he also rescued a boy from drowning, for which he was rewarded with a green and gold sash, symbolic of Ireland, the country his father was born in. The sash came to represent to him a symbol of how unfairly immigrants were treated. He would wear the sash underneath his armour on the fateful day he was finally taken in for good, guns blazing.

In a land without roads, rail or telegraph and with the law administration stretched thin over hundreds of miles, a capable horseman could go anywhere and do pretty much anything he pleased. During the late-1860s a charismatic middle-aged thief, Harry Power, became his crime mentor and fellow horse thief. In March 1870 Power was arrested for robbery, but with the witnesses unable to positively identify Ned as an accomplice to the stick-up he escaped arrest. The police believed he was guilty, but the lack of direct evidence meant the authorities could do little. Twice more he evaded implication in Power's crimes, but his luck eventually ran dry after an altercation with Jeremiah McCormack, who was feuding with one of his friends. His first prison sentence was six months' hard labour, the same punishment that had all-but killed his father.

Barely a month after leaving prison, Ned blundered into more trouble while doing a good deed. Returning home on a stolen mare he'd recovered, he ran across Constable Hall who knew the mare was stolen property. In the scuffle to apprehend Ned – during which he rode Hall like a horse, sticking him with spurs to make him drop his gun – Hall tried to shoot Ned, later claiming he had been goaded. For his part, Ned said Hall attempted to shoot before he even tried to arrest him, only failing when his Colt revolver jammed. The constable testified that he beat Ned's head with the revolver, leaving "a mass of raw and bleeding flesh" as a group of men bound him with ropes. Ned claimed Hall bribed a main witness, James Murdoch, to incriminate him. It made no difference. On 2 August 1871 Ned began three years' imprisonment with hard labour. "It is a credit to a policeman to convict an innocent man, but any mutt can pot a guilty one", he later wrote. "There never was such a thing as justice in English laws." The prison photograph betrays little of the bitterness he felt; more a calm determination and an aloofness by averting his eyes from the camera. When he returned home in February 1874, six months early for good behaviour, he declared, "I would rather face the gallows than go to gaol again".

> Ned's armour weighed 44kg (97lb) and during his final shoot-out the helmet resisted five bullets

With his younger brother Dan and new stepfather George King, Ned resumed stealing horses. In 1876 and 1877, the gang stole over 200 horses, crudely rebranding them with an iron hoop and recolouring the hair with iodine. Their plans worked, until a trivial misdemeanour on Ned's part – another possible frame-up – started an escalating chain of events. Charged with drunkenly riding a horse across a footpath, Ned fought with police leading him to court, addressing Constable Thomas Lonigan



Ned at Pentridge Prison, then only aged 16

Life in the time of Ned Kelly

Rise of the squattocracy

Squatters took unoccupied Crown land for grazing livestock. After provisions allowing leased squatting from 1836, they became a wealthy and important 'squattocracy', able to influence authorities into ignoring their killing of Aboriginals occupying 'their' land. Ned Kelly admitted stealing 280 horses from James Whitty, a prominent squatter in Victoria.

Gold fever

In 1823, the government concealed the discovery of Australia's gold, fearing destabilisation. With the secret out by January 1851, prospectors flocked to Victoria, causing turmoil that shaped immigration policy in favour of Europeans. Victoria's population grew sevenfold, but by the late-1860s, gold production slumped because of the difficulty of mining at ever-greater depths.

Outback outlaws

The Victorian gold rush caused an epidemic of outlaw bushrangers to rob goldfields and banks for wealth that was easily transported and converted into cash. Their heyday was from the 1860s until improvements in rail, police efficiency and the telegraph by the 1880s made bushranging harder. Some 2,000 bushrangers had lived and died, many shot or hanged.

The Eureka Rebellion

Anger over mining fees for Victorian gold miners not democratically represented peaked in 1854. On 3 December that year the most disaffected miners swore allegiance to the Eureka Flag (or Southern Cross) in a stockade on Bakery Hill, Ballarat, before clashes with soldiers killed and wounded dozens. Legal reforms reflecting most of the miner's demands followed.

Banged up

When Ned's family and sympathisers were incarcerated in prisons such as Pentridge and Beechworth, their buildings were models of the Panopticon, a wheel-like structure with a central tower from which wardens could observe all prisoners. Prisoners wore masks in the exercise yard to hide their identities and used numbers instead of names when speaking to wardens.

Ned's skeleton was disinterred in 1929, but his skull disappeared until 1952, when it was found in a safe



At one point the bounty on the Kelly gang was £8,000 – an extraordinary sum of money in the late 1800s

"Two police teams closed in on the Kelly Gang, but upon hearing a police gunshot aimed at parrots at Stringybark Creek, the gang found the police camp first"

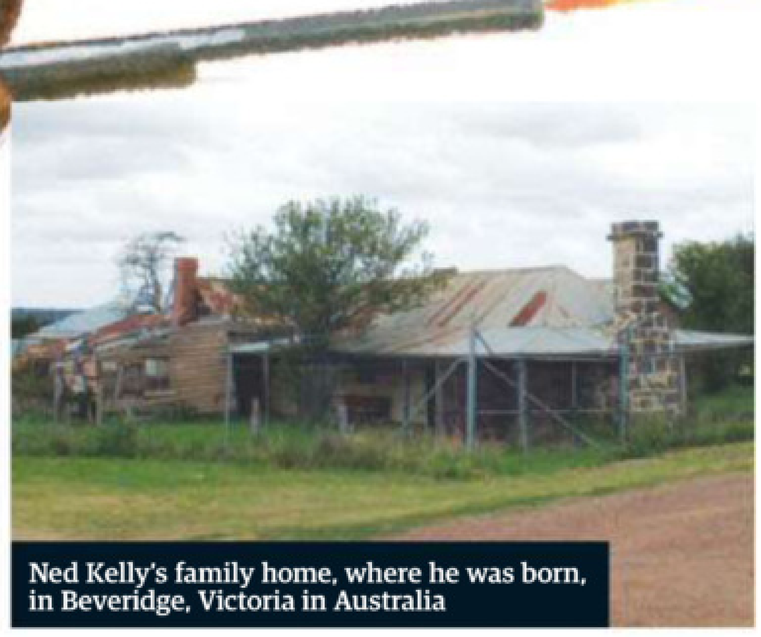
with the legendary oath, "I never shot a man yet, but if I ever do, so help me God, you'll be the first!"

These words would prove prophetic. On 15 April 1878 a scuffle erupted between Dan Kelly and Constable Alexander Fitzpatrick, who appeared at Kelly's house with an arrest warrant for Ned. Fitzpatrick was wounded and his account that Dan resisted arrest and Ned shot him in the wrist was accepted by trial authorities. Ellen Kelly, who denied her son Ned was present, was sentenced to three years with hard labour. Bill Skillion and Bill 'Bricky' Williamson, neighbours who were there, were sentenced to six years each for assisting in the attempted murder of a police officer.

Sworn to avenge these perceived injustices, Ned and Dan absconded into the Wombat Ranges. To raise money for a lawyer for their mother, they and two friends, Steve Hart and Joe Byrne, established a whisky still, cleared 20 acres (eight hectares) to grow barley, and dug for gold. On 25 October 1878 two police teams closed in on the Kelly Gang, but upon hearing a police gunshot aimed at parrots at Stringybark Creek, the gang found the police camp first. Ned fatally shot Constable Lonigan in the temple and Constable Scanlon was also shot dead. As Constable McIntyre escaped on horseback, Constable Kennedy exchanged gunfire until he ran out of bullets. Ned shot him through the heart and took his gold watch. McIntyre returned with more police early the next morning to find the dead officers peppered with extra shots: a message that all members of the gang shared mutual responsibility.

With the rewards on their heads raised to £500 each, dead or alive, the gang changed tactics to raise funds for Ellen Kelly's cause. Led by Ned, they smoothly executed a nonviolent bank robbery in Euroa on 10 December 1878 and another one disguised as police in Jerilderie two months later. Between these events, Ned dictated a statement, arguing that police persecution forced him to become outlaw, and

More books have been written about Ned Kelly than any other Australian



Ned Kelly's family home, where he was born, in Beveridge, Victoria in Australia

Defining moment

The Fitzpatrick incident
15 April 1878

Constable Alexander Fitzpatrick appears at Kelly's house with a warrant, intending to arrest Ned by himself in disobeyance of his orders and police policy. After a drunken pass at Ned's sister, a scuffle erupts with Dan Kelly and Fitzpatrick is wounded. Fitzpatrick's report to his superiors that Dan resisted arrest and that Ned shot him in the wrist is accepted by the authorities. Ned's mother, Ellen Kelly, who denies Ned was present, is sentenced to three years' imprisonment. Ned and Dan abscond into the Wombat Ranges, sworn fugitives set on avenging these injustices. The government offers £100 for the capture of each.

Timeline

1854 or 1855

Birth of an outlaw
Ned is born to Ellen and John 'Red' Kelly, a gold digger, in Beveridge, north of Melbourne. One of eight Kelly siblings, Ned attends a Church of England school and becomes very keen on horses.
June 1854 or 1855

First brush with the law
Chinese gold digger, Ah Fook, accuses Ned of assaulting and robbing him. Complications with interpreting Fook force the dismissal of the first recorded charges against Ned, only 14 years of age at the time.
15 October 1869

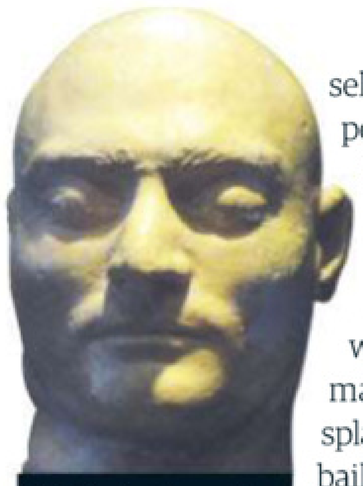
Lucky escapes
Ned is twice charged for stick-up robberies with bushranger Harry Power. After spending a month in lock-up in Richmond he is released due to lack of evidence. Power gets a ten-year sentence.
16 March 1870



Hard labour
Ned receives six months' hard labour for assaulting the McCormacks. Three weeks after release, a policeman tries to shoot Ned, who overpowers him. He earns three years hard labour.
October 1870

Bare-knuckle boxer
To settle a dispute over a mare, Ned fights a bare-knuckle boxing match with Isaiah 'Wild' Wright. Ned wins the fight after 20 rounds and commissions a photograph of himself in a pugilistic stance.
8 August 1874

First notoriety
Kelly is fined for damaging police uniforms while resisting arrest by Constable Lonigan. With brother Dan and stepfather George King, Ned begins cattle rustling the following month.
September 1877


Ned's death mask on public display

self-defence caused the three police deaths ("I have never interfered with any person unless they deserved it"). Condemning law officers as "big, ugly, fat-necked, wombat-headed, big-bellied, magpie-legged, narrow-hipped, splawfooted sons of Irish bailiffs or English landlords", he appealed for justice for other poor Irish families in Victoria, claiming they should receive a share of land squatters' assets, and calling for a republic of North East Victoria. The outlaw read the letter to 60 townspeople in a Jerilderie hotel after the bank job and the press ran synopses of the manifesto.

The gang stayed in the bush for 16 months, not fleeing across the border as they might have, but remaining steadfast to their cause. In April 1880 they employed Joe Grigg to blacksmith four suits of iron armour from stolen ploughshares. On 26 June 1880, one of Kelly's gang members, Joe Byrne, called on police informer Aaron Sherritt in Sebastopol, shooting him dead. By tragic irony, the gang's outlaw status and arrest warrants expired the following day. This freed Byrne and Hart and the Kelly brothers' outstanding warrants were only for the attempted murder of Fitzpatrick, but not Sherritt's murder. What happened next indicates the gang knew nothing of this change in their legal situation.

The gang captured the railway station at Glenrowan on 27 June 1880, imprisoned the local constable, cut the telegraph wires and directed the dismantling of a railway section to derail police reinforcements. Ned's plan was to capture the troopers, exchange them for prisoners including his mother Ellen, and declare the region the Republic of North East Victoria. At daybreak, some 50 police duly arrived by train, surrounding the Glenrowan Inn beside the station, where 35 hostages were held. In an intense gunfight, Joe Byrne was shot in the leg and Ned was shot in the foot, right thumb and arm before exclaiming, "you bloody cocktails can't hurt me, I'm in iron!" before disappearing outside. Gunfire continued intermittently throughout the day and night. After the hostages were released, the siege finally ended when the police set fire to the hotel to smoke out the gang. As Joe Byrne left the hotel he was fatally shot, before a fully armoured Ned reappeared from behind the troopers. He lurched toward them as bullets uselessly struck his armour but shots to his unprotected legs eventually brought him down. Ned was riddled with 28 bullet wounds – but alive, unlike the rest of his gang. Underneath the iron armour he was wearing the green sash presented to him as a boy.

Ned was tried for four murders and a host of lesser offences in Melbourne on 28 to 30 October 1880. The judge, Redmond Barry, had sentenced his mother to prison two years earlier, arguably doing more than anyone else to precipitate the gang's rampage. Before the verdict was heard, Ned spoke passionately: "If my lips teach the public that men are made mad by bad treatment, and if the police are taught that they may exasperate to madness men they persecute and ill-treat, my life will not be entirely thrown away." Ned Kelly was convicted of the murder of Constable Lonigan. "I will return from the grave to fight," he boldly declared, but despite a petition of around 30,000 signatures to spare his life, the luck of Australia's ironclad folk hero had finally run out.

Ned's remains were buried in consecrated ground near his mother's grave on 20 January 2013



Stringybark Creek, where one of Ned's confrontations with police took place


Port Arthur in Tasmania was a penal colony in the 19th century

Deported from England

With the 'Bloody Code' of 222 crimes eligible for the death penalty by the late-18th century, a punishment many judges considered too harsh, and with prisons full to bursting mostly with minor felons, Britain started deporting criminals to Australia in 1787. The First Fleet's arrival in Sydney to establish Australia as a penal colony is now celebrated as National Australia Day, 26 January.

Van Diemen's Land (modern-day Tasmania) was settled as a penal colony in 1824. It was where Ned's father, John 'Red' Kelly, was transported from Tipperary in 1841. His crime: stealing two pigs. It wasn't unusual for petty crimes such as this to lead to deportation. Most convicts were employed in public works gangs for building infrastructure and prisons, and after a period were freed to live and work within set areas. The 'ticket of leave' system was introduced in 1853, allowing prisoners of good behaviour who had served a specific term freedoms such as the ability to seek employment, send for their families, or to marry.

The perceived threat to the livelihoods of free settlers by convicts, stoked by newspapers' fear mongering, led to the creation of a league lobbying for the end of transportation. When transportation ceased in 1868, over 165,000 British convicts had been resettled in Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand.

Defining moment

Pleas for clemency
December 1878 - February 1879

Ned writes to justify his actions in the context of his family's persecution. Signed "Ned Kelly, a forced outlaw", his letter passes to Donald Cameron, a parliamentarian critical of the police hunt. Ned expands on this in 'The Jerilderie Letter', coruscating the police for their corruption. Detailing the events at Stringybark Creek, the police murders are portrayed as self-defence actions. Ned threatens "all those who have reason to fear me" with consequences "worse than the rust in the wheat in Victoria or the druth of a dry season to the grasshoppers in New South Wales."

Beyond the law
Several groups of troopers start hunting the Kelly Gang when they are declared legal outlaws, enabling capture or shooting dead by anyone at any time. The reward is £2,000 for all four men.
25 October 1878

Murder at Stringybark
With the gang and troopers stalking each other in the Wombat Ranges, the gang surprise a camp of four disguised officers. In the subsequent commotion Ned shoots Constables Lonigan, Kennedy and Scanlon.
25 October 1878

Desperate measures
In Jerilderie, the Kelly Gang lock the policemen in their cells and detain 60 townspeople in the Royal Mail Hotel while they rob the bank. The reward rises to £2,000 per man, dead or alive.
8-11 February 1879



Final showdown
Ned and the gang lay siege to Glenrowan. Two hostages and two gang members are killed in shoot-outs with police at the Glenrowan Inn. Ned is disabled by Sergeant Steele and subsequently captured.
27-29 June 1880



1880

Execution
Ned is tried and convicted for one murder and sentenced to death at Melbourne Gaol. His last words are either "I suppose it has come to this" or "Such is life."
11 November 1880

© Thinkstock; Peterdownunder; Look & Learn; State Library of Victoria

A reluctant enemy

Still feeling the sting of his defeat at Issus, Darius was desperate to avoid confrontation with Alexander again and sent repeated offers to cease his invasion of Persia, including offering half his empire. But Alexander refused, and the moment Darius saw the Macedonian king had broken through his front line he fled the scene of the battle.

The mighty war elephant

The battle marked the first confrontation between Europeans and Persian war elephants. Alexander was so impressed by the powerful beasts that he took the 15 elephants into his own army. From then on Alexander continued to increase the number of war elephants in his force.

Alexander's strategy

The battle is thought to have been won by Alexander's military genius and a dangerous manoeuvre that required almost perfect timing in the chaos on the field. Darius was hesitant to fight the Macedonian king after he had defeated him at Issus, but his hand was forced and history repeated itself.



Quantity vs quality
Although Darius' army boasted massive numbers, Alexander's forces were well trained and equipped. The majority of Darius' forces were lightly armed and poorly armoured and only the hoplites and Immortals could hope to face up to Alexander's mighty warriors.

THE BATTLE OF GAUGAMELA

ASSYRIA 1 OCTOBER 331 BCE

After soundly defeating the Persians at Issus in 333 BCE, Alexander the Great's conquests led him to the Mediterranean coast, Egypt and Syria. As he conquered his way around the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea, Alexander once again turned his sights to toppling his primary enemy, the mighty Persian Empire. However Darius III, king of Persia, had not been idle for the last two years; he had recruited men from all around his empire to form an army big enough to halt once and for all the might of the unconquered king.

Despite commanding a large force Darius, having felt the sting of Alexander's army once before, was eager to avoid conflict and he offered to cede half the Persian Empire to Alexander to halt his invasion. Despite the protests of his generals, Alexander flatly refused the offer. With no options left, Darius prepared his forces for battle. Sources differ in regard to the number of men at Darius' disposal, ranging from 50,000 to ancient estimates of one million, but it is clear that the Persian king's forces greatly outnumbered Alexander's and this, he decided, would be his strength.

Darius chose a flat, open, treeless plain, thereby avoiding the problem he suffered at Issus where the narrow battlefield limited the deployment of his large forces. With 200 scythed chariots and 15 war elephants at his command a flat terrain was paramount, and so he sent his soldiers to flatten the earth. In the dry autumn heat, the field was a vast expanse of flat empty earth with no hills, trees or rivers to use as cover.

Alexander had already taken several Persian cavalrymen prisoner and learned of Darius' location and tactics. He marched his army to roughly 11 kilometres (seven miles) away from the Persians and set up camp for the night. On the eve of the battle, Alexander was urged by his generals to take advantage of the sleeping Persian forces with a surprise attack in the dead of night. Alexander, ever confident, proclaimed he would not steal his victory and instead commanded his army to rest all night. This was not so for Darius' forces, however, as they were awake, armed and ready to meet the 'surprise' attack that never came.

With his men well rested, Alexander led his forces toward the Persians on the morning of 1 October. Across the flat plain, the imposing Persian army could be seen in all their majesty, the gleaming scythed chariots before them, the massive numbers of cavalry reaching back as far as the eye could see, and in the centre, Darius himself, surrounded by the fabled Immortals and 15 mighty war elephants. But Alexander's troops, although fewer in numbers than the Persians, were elite fighters led by a man who was still unbeaten on the battlefield. Utilising a unique strategy, Alexander's forces were able to create a gap in the enemy line and launch a devastating attack into the weakened Persian centre. When Darius realised what had happened, he broke away from the battle and fled for his life.

Alexander aimed to capture Darius, but this was denied him when Darius was unexpectedly killed by his own commander and cousin, Bessus, who coveted his seat of power. The death marked the end of the Persian Empire and crowned Alexander as the King of Kings. His empire continued to expand until his death eight years later. To this day, Alexander the Great remains the measure of which other military leaders compare themselves, and his success at the battle of Gaugamela is heralded as one of his finest victories.

Macedonia

TROOPS 40,000
CAVALRY 7,000
LOSSES 1,100



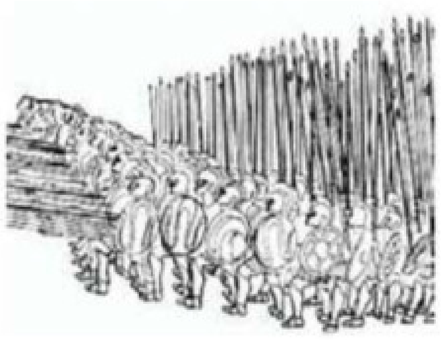
ALEXANDER THE GREAT
LEADER

King of Macedon, Alexander built one of the largest empires of the world through his military prowess.
Strength Supreme commander with unparalleled military genius.
Weakness Overconfidence and competitive nature could lead to reckless actions.



THESSALIAN CAVALRY
KEY UNIT

Considered the finest cavalry in all of Greece, they wielded spears and javelins alike.
Strengths Efficient at quick manoeuvres while maintaining deadly speed.
Weakness A history of rebellion puts their allegiance into doubt.



SARISSA
KEY WEAPON

A 6m (19.5ft)-long wooden pike with a sharp iron head.
Strengths A great asset against shorter weapons, creating a wall of pikes for the enemy to overcome.
Weakness A heavy useless hindrance outside of the rigid phalanx formation.

01 The right advance

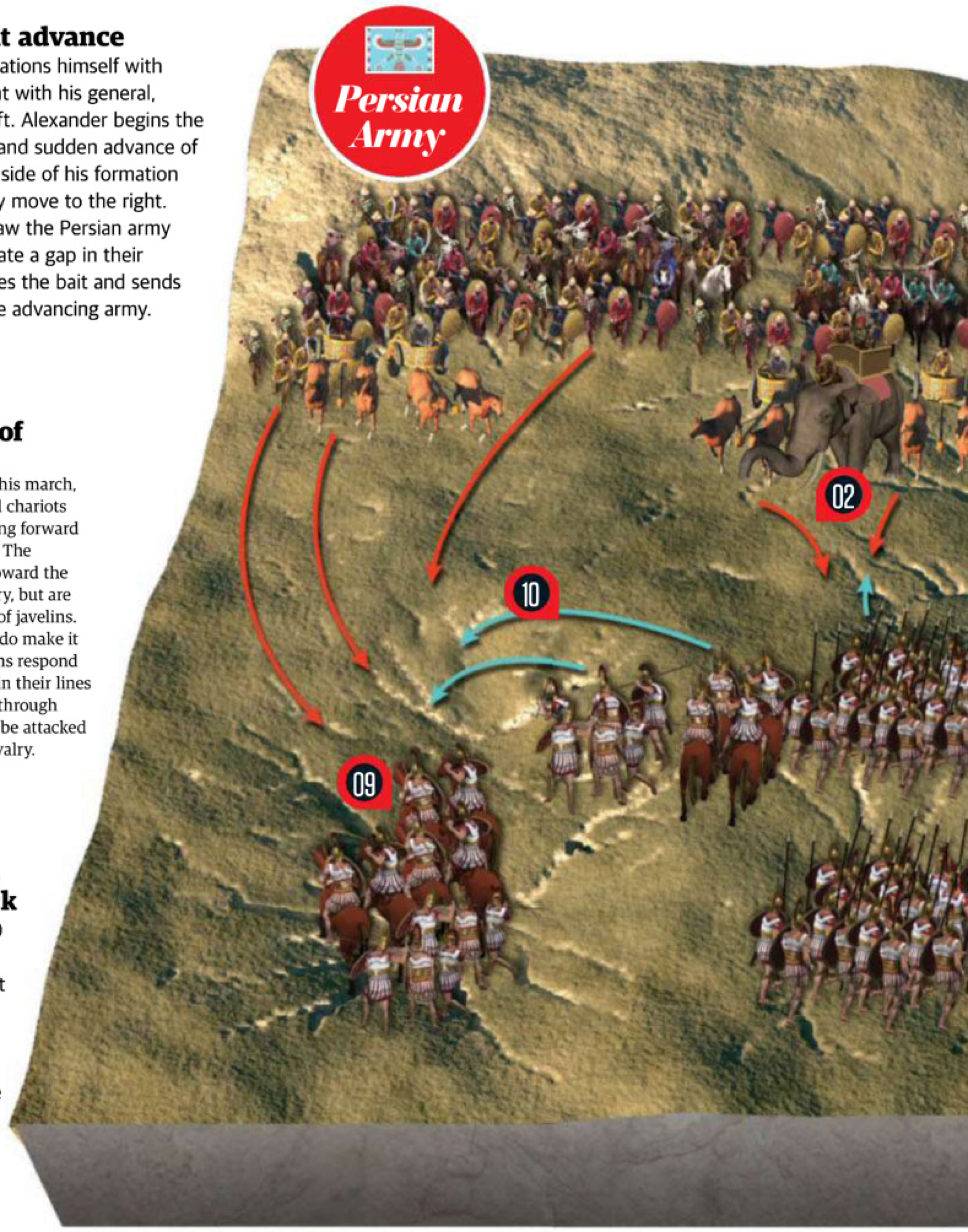
Alexander stations himself with his cavalry to the right with his general, Parmenion, on the left. Alexander begins the battle with the swift and sudden advance of his men. As the right side of his formation marches forward they move to the right. Alexander aims to draw the Persian army toward them and create a gap in their formation; Darius takes the bait and sends his cavalry toward the advancing army.

02 The charge of chariots

As Alexander continues his march, Darius sends his scythed chariots and war elephants rushing forward in a bold show of power. The mighty chariots storm toward the Macedonian light infantry, but are quickly halted by a rain of javelins. To the few chariots that do make it through, the Macedonians respond by simply creating gaps in their lines which the chariots pass through harmlessly, only to then be attacked and destroyed by the cavalry.

03 Persians fight back

Alexander sends 400 riders to counter-attack the Persian left wing, but they are overwhelmed by the massive numbers of Darius' forces and are driven back.



04 Darius takes his chance

Sensing an opportunity, Darius drives his cavalry forward and they furiously ride to reach Alexander and put a halt to his advance on the right. However, Alexander sends a larger counter-attack against the Persians. A bloody and ferocious battle occurs between Alexander's outnumbered forces and the Persian left. After the deaths of many men on both sides, the Macedonian forces drive the Persians back.

05 Unstoppable wave

Witnessing Alexander's rapidly approaching forces, Bessus, Darius' commander on the left, sends the remainder of his cavalry into the fray. Alexander's army storms into Bessus' cavalry, and after another blood-ridden bout of fierce fighting, Bessus' forces retreat back as well.



10 A hard-fought victory

As he rushes to Parmenion, Alexander and his forces run headlong into fleeing Persian and Indian cavalry. The Macedonians are forced to hack a path through but this does not come easily, and Alexander loses at least 60 men. When he finally arrives the Persian forces realise that they have lost and begin to withdraw. However, Alexander is not ready to rest and continues his pursuit of Darius into the night.

09 Alexander makes a choice

On the left flank, Parmenion's forces are struggling to hold against the Persian cavalry that now surround them. He sends a desperate plea for aid to Alexander, hot on the pursuit of Darius. Alexander faces a choice of either ending the war by cutting down his foe – or turning around and saving his army. He chooses the latter and Darius disappears out of sight.

06 Alexander leads the charge

The concentration of Persian forces on the right has created exactly what Alexander had hoped for – a gap in the centre of Darius' formation. Alexander assembles his forces into a gigantic wedge, himself at the tip, wheels his entire squadron left amid the mayhem of the battle, then charges into the weakened Persian centre.

08 The Persians break through

The battle is far from over though. The advance has left a gap in the Macedonian front line and swarms of Persians break through. Unaware of their leader's desertion, they ride to Alexander's camp, ransacking it and freeing prisoners.

07 Darius flees

The surprise attack tears into Darius' forces and his royal guard are swiftly struck down. Realising that all is lost, Darius immediately turns and flees from the killing field.

Persia

TROOPS 50-100,000
CAVALRY 13-42,000
LOSSES 40,000+



DARIUS III

LEADER

The king of Persia, Darius III was fiercely independent and thwarted several attempts to poison him.
Strengths A massive army that outnumbered the opposition.
Weakness Lack of skills and experience in battle without any striking talents to inspire his troops.



WAR ELEPHANTS

KEY UNIT

Mighty beasts used to charge at the enemy and trample them to death, as well as providing an element of pure fear.
Strengths Ability to turn the tide of battle with chaos and terror.
Weakness Unreliable and notoriously difficult to control.



SCYTHED CHARIOT

KEY WEAPON

A war chariot with 1m (3.3ft)-long blades mounted on each wheel, pulled by a team of four horses.
Strengths Ability to plough through lines of infantry and cut into the Macedonian phalanx formation.
Weakness Open flat land was essential for successful use.

© Nicolle R Fuller

A poor neighbourhood in Port-au-Prince reduced to rubble after the earthquake

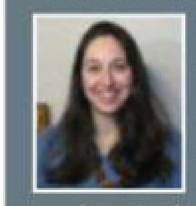


Eye Witness

HAITI EARTHQUAKE, HAITI, 12 JANUARY 2010

Written by Frances White

MELANIE WRIGHT ZEEB



Melanie fell in love with Haiti when she visited in 2004 and in 2008 moved there to work at God's Littlest Angels adoption orphanage near the capital city of Port-au-Prince. Melanie was working at the orphanage when a magnitude 7.0 earthquake devastated the city and has since written about the tragedy. She now lives in the USA and is working on her next book.

> "I remember just standing there and wondering if it was ever going to end or if we were just going to shake forever"

On Tuesday 12 January 2010, at 4.53pm, a powerful earthquake tore mercilessly through the Caribbean country of Haiti. Measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale, the quake would not only devastate the landscape and infrastructure of the nation but would also claim the lives of at least 100,000 people. Suddenly the world's press was focused on the poverty-stricken land and images of destruction, ruin and death were pumped across every news channel. Behind the numbers and horrifying images, thousands of real people were struggling to survive; Melanie Wright Zeeb was one of those who was unlucly enough to personally experience the quake that shook the world.

American-born Zeeb first visited Haiti in 2004 on a short business trip with her church and instantly fell in love with the country and its people. She spent the next couple of years trying to find a way back and in 2008 moved there to work at God's Littlest Angels, an orphanage located in the picturesque Kenscoff Mountains above the capital city of Port-au-Prince.

In the afternoon on 12 January 2010, Zeeb was just coming to the end of a long shift and was looking forward to taking a shower and relaxing. "It had been a really long day and I had spent my day taking pictures of all the kids in the orphanage. I was very tired, the day was very stressful", she explains. Drained from the busy shift, Zeeb had returned to her office and was waiting for her computer to go through a back-up process before she could finally go home and relax. The day was far from over, though.

"I was sitting at my desk and all of a sudden I felt the tremor go through the desk, I felt it in my hand. I didn't know what was going on, it was a very strange sensation, but in my mind it was coming from the desk," she says. "I was on a chair with wheels on it so I pushed back from the desk very quickly and the motion of me moving backward in conjunction with the earth moving completely disorientated me and I got very dizzy. I looked at the floor to try to get my equilibrium back and when I looked at the floor I thought it was moving up and down, almost as if I were a kid sitting on a seesaw."

Disorientated and confused, Zeeb looked behind her and saw the heavy filing cabinets that lined the wall swaying back and forth; slowly her mind began to understand just what was going on. Suddenly afraid that they were going to fall on her, Zeeb leapt to her feet. "I had heard this advice at some point to get in a doorway during an earthquake so I went to the next doorway which was about 12 feet [four metres] away and I stayed there and waited out the remainder of the earthquake." Although the shaking only lasted approximately 40 seconds, as Zeeb stood terrified in the doorway of her office, the tremors seemed never ending. "It felt all-encompassing and I remember just standing there and wondering if it was ever going to end or if we were just going to shake forever."

When the initial earthquake finally stopped, a dazed Zeeb and her colleagues gathered outside the orphanage, unsure what was happening or what to do. "There was a lot of chaos and confusion when it happened, a lot of

Timeline of a natural disaster

CST

4:53pm 12 January — The quake hits



A magnitude 7.0 earthquake hits Haiti, with an epicentre near the town of Léogâne. 25km (16mi) west of the capital of Port-au-Prince.

5:00pm — The staff and children of God's Littlest Angels orphanage gather outside as they wait for the aftershocks to pass.

6:53pm — Over the two hours after the earthquake, eight aftershocks with magnitudes between 4.3 and 5.9 are recorded.

11:00pm — A tireless rescue

People dig through the rubble through the night using flashlights and torches, hoping to save the thousands of people trapped beneath.

6:00am 13 January — Rescuers discover the dead body of Port-au-Prince's Catholic Archbishop Joseph Serge Miot in his office at the cathedral.

4:50pm — The first international aid team, ICE-SAR from Iceland, arrives in Port-au-Prince within 24 hours of the earthquake striking.

6:00am 14 January — Haiti struggles to cope

As aftershocks begin to slow, mass graves are dug for the estimated 50,000 dead. Morgues overflow and hospital parking lots are littered with bodies. Medical supplies run dangerously low.

10:00am 16 January — At God's Littlest Angels orphanage, two strangers arrive with a pick-up truck full of supplies.

6:00pm — Mobile hospitals

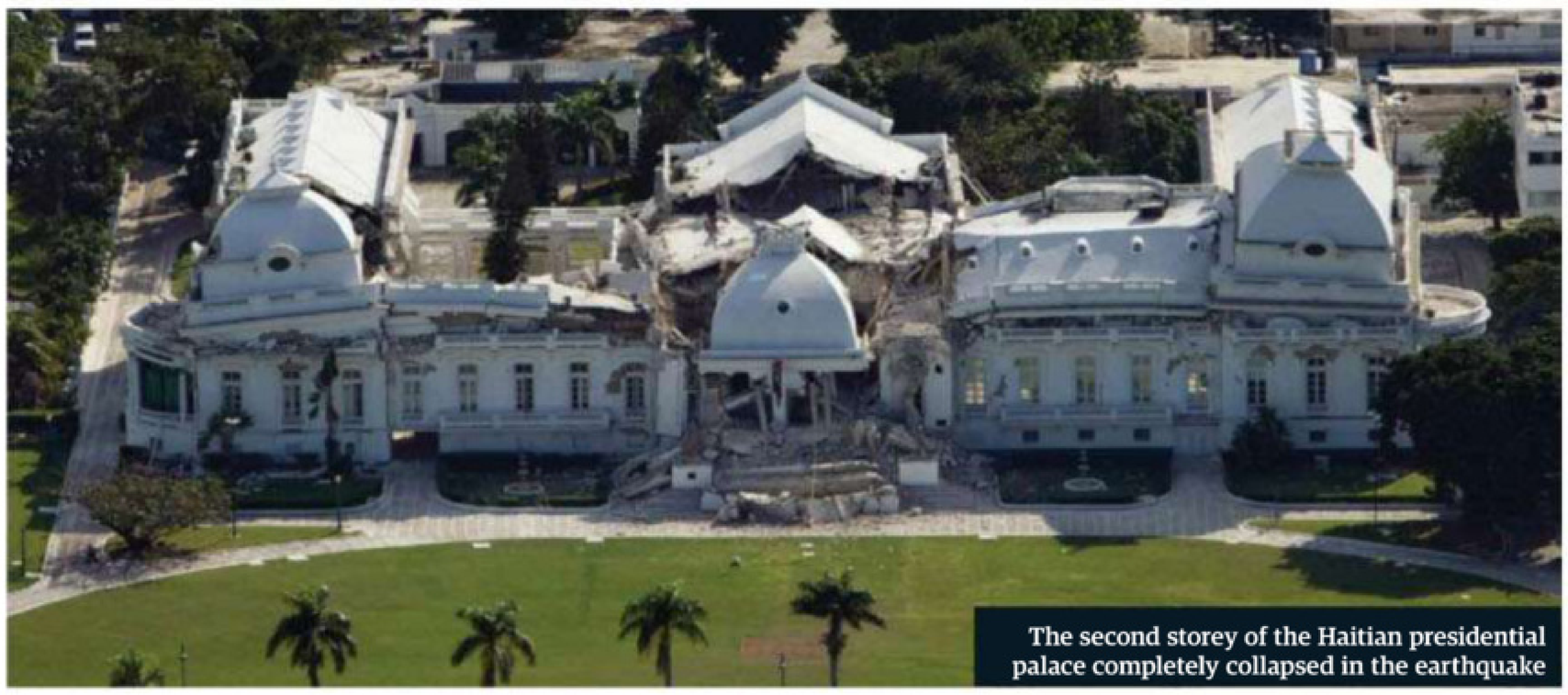


A field hospital with specialised facilities to treat children, the elderly and pregnant women is set up by a rescue team from the Israel Defence Forces' Home Front Command.

6:00pm 17 January — Rescue efforts continue



Reports show a record-breaking number of rescues, with 12 survivors pulled from rubble in Port-au-Prince bringing the total of survivors dug out from the rubble to 110.



The second storey of the Haitian presidential palace completely collapsed in the earthquake

"Over 50 aftershocks were recorded after the initial earthquake, some measuring as large as 5.9 on the Richter scale"

our volunteers [...] came down and when they came they brought children with them." The workers and children stood outside for 40 minutes, shaken and confused, before they thought it safe to return to the building. But the earthquake wasn't finished yet, "Literally ten minutes after we went inside we experienced two fairly major aftershocks. At that point we went back outside", she recalls. Terrified their building was going to collapse around them, they prepared to stay outside for a while until it calmed down but she admits, "I'm not sure what we were expecting."

Zeeb and the others at the orphanage were lucky, the building escaped only with cracks and minor damage, but this was not the case for much of the capital city. The quake had struck the most populated area in the whole country, affecting three million people. There was widespread damage across the country, with an estimated 250,000 homes and 30,000 commercial buildings collapsing or suffering extreme damage. Landmark buildings such as the presidential palace, national assembly building and the main jail were also ravaged by the quake.

It wasn't just the quake that would test the spirits of the people of Haiti, though - the aftereffects created multitudes of struggles to overcome. "One of our most immediate concerns [...] was the shortage of supplies," recalls Zeeb. "We had supplies in the orphanage but due to the number of children that we were caring for and the amount of storage space we had, it was a concern." With 152 confused and vulnerable children to care for, Zeeb and the staff at the orphanage struggled mightily to gather enough supplies in the panicked country: "We didn't know, nobody knew at that time, about the others, about the houses [...] we knew the harbour had sunk. So we didn't know when any of the supplies in Haiti were going to be replenished."

With the care of orphaned children entrusted to her and her coworkers, Zeeb felt a heavy burden on her shoulders. "Kids tend to pick up your attitude, if the people entrusted with their care seemed okay then they know they're okay." Cut off from the world and unsure of when the next supplies were coming, Zeeb focused on ensuring the children would feel calm and safe, "We helped them to feel a certainty that we didn't. A lot of them were so young, they were so resilient." Many of the children were from newborn to three years old, but the older children had a better understanding what was going on. "We were able to explain to them - it's okay, we are going to take care of you, and they would trust you."

Try as she might, Zeeb could not stop the ground from shaking. Over 50 aftershocks were recorded after the initial earthquake, some measuring as large as 5.9 on the Richter scale. "The aftershocks would not stop", Zeeb says. "With everything else we were dealing with, it was just one more drain on us mentally, emotionally and psychologically - the fact that there was nowhere we could go where we could just be still." Ravaged by aftershocks and desperate for food and water, the orphanage staff would travel to the grocery stores that had not been destroyed and stand in the long, slow lines, hoping to bring something back.

Little did Zeeb know that help was coming and, drip by drip, supplies started to find their way to the orphanage. "As the days went on we started realising the world was coming to help, they were literally coming, they were sending aid", she recalls. A group of Americans had heard of their situation and brought them supplies; there was even a group who chartered a plane with supplies to the orphanage, and people who had adopted children there sent what they could. Accustomed to seeing negative attention toward Haiti in North America, these acts of kindness were touching to Zeeb. "The world had seen the tragedy and was responding to cries for help - and that was one of the most heartening things."

The orphanage worker recalls one such instance that happened shortly after the quake. After learning about the destruction of the harbour, the orphanage staff felt completely and utterly cut off from the rest of the world, "We knew the situation there was bad in terms of our ability to function, so we felt completely

Richter scale explained

1.0 ***Microearthquakes*** – Several million per year.

2.0 ***Minor*** – Over one million per year.

3.0 ***Minor*** – Over 100,000 per year

4.0 ***Light*** – 10,000 to 15,000 per year. The Kent earthquake in Britain in 2007 measured 4.3. Over 450 properties were damaged and two people were injured in that quake.

5.0 ***Moderate*** – 1,000 to 1,500 per year.

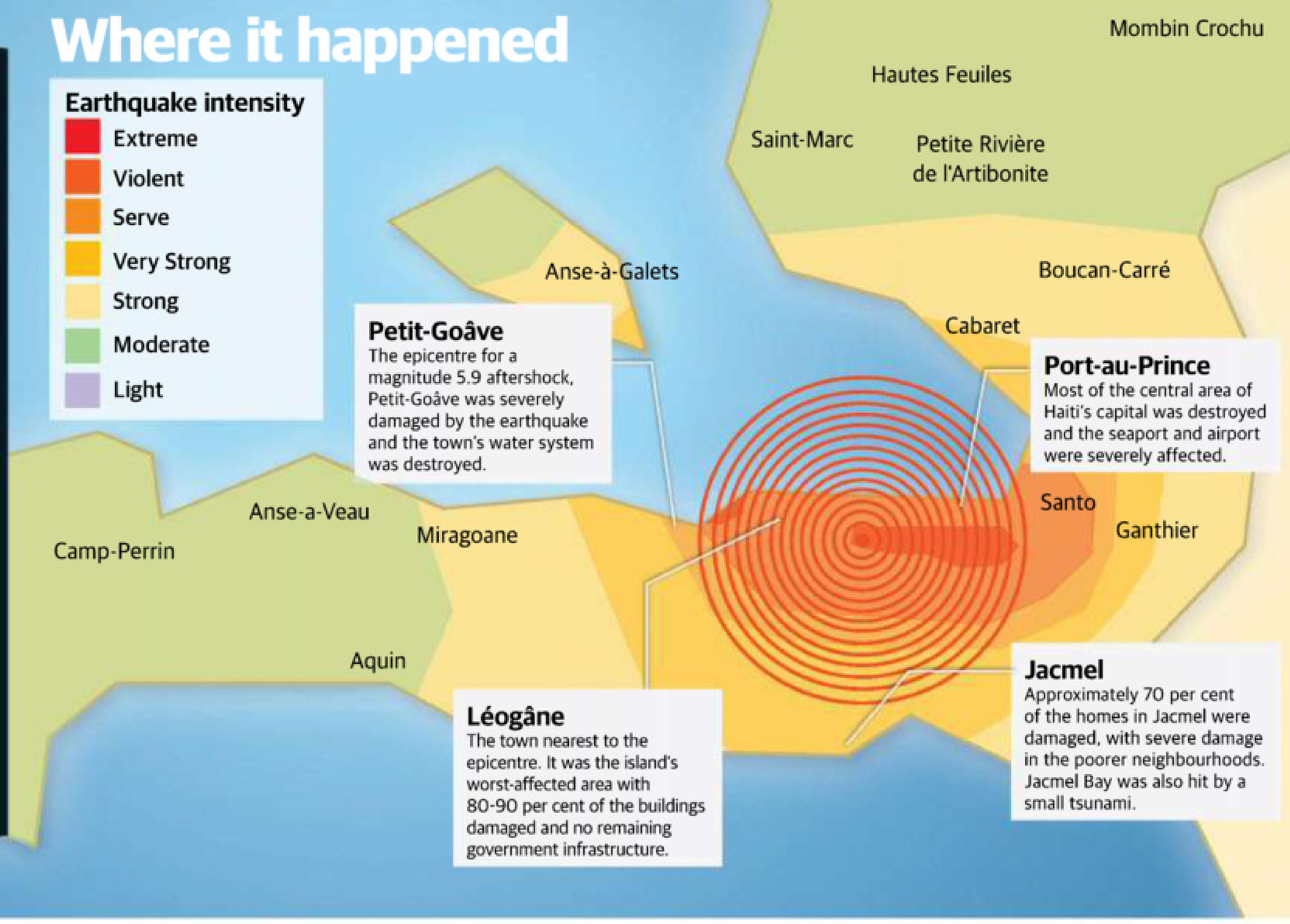
6.0 ***Strong*** – 100 to 150 per year. In 1989 the Loma Prieta earthquake in California measured 6.9. 3,757 people were injured and 63 killed, leaving up to 12,000 homeless.

7.0 ***Major*** – Ten to 20 per year.

8.0 ***Great*** – One per year.

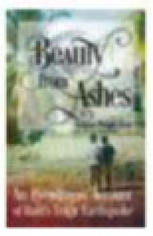
9.0 ***Great*** – One per ten to 50 years. 2011's Tōhoku earthquake in Japan was 9.0 on the Richter scale and triggered a powerful tsunami; the final death toll stood at 15,887.

Where it happened



alone." But on the Saturday morning after the Tuesday quake, the orphanage received two anonymous visitors she had never seen before. "They were at our gate and they brought us food, water and I don't even remember what else", says Zeeb. "It wasn't a lot, I think it was what they could fit in a pick-up truck, but just having them there and knowing that was the first actual physical embodiment of any sort of help from the outside was extremely encouraging."

The quake had struck Haiti to the core and the country struggled to cope. "The government did what they could, but they were so crippled, they lost key officials as well – a lot of the government officials died in the earthquake", Zeeb explains. "The governmental infrastructure was basically nonexistent after the earthquake." After losing their homes, leaders, loved ones and struggling for food and water, Zeeb marvelled at the strength of the people around her. "The thing about Haiti is that the people there are so resilient, they already have so little, that they were used to making the best of a bad situation." To this day, Zeeb likes to remember the quake, not for the devastation, but for the acts of kindness, companionship and strength that shone through the darkness.



Beauty From Ashes, Melanie Wright Zeeb's eyewitness account of the Haiti earthquake, is published from Ambassador-Emerald International and is available through Amazon and iTunes.

Have you witnessed a landmark event in history?

Tell us about it at...

allabouthistory@imagine-publishing.co.uk

Origins and aftermath

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and has a history of natural disasters. During its time as a French colony the central city of Port-au-Prince was destroyed twice – once in 1751 and again in 1770. Haiti struggles with a history of national debt, unfair trade policies and frequent foreign invention that are all thought to have contributed to the poverty rife in the region. This poverty, especially the poor housing conditions, is thought to have massively inflated the death toll as a result of the quake to an estimated 100,000. After the 7.0 earthquake hit, countries around the world responded with humanitarian aid and rescue efforts were covered by the world press and across social media. The aftermath of the quake is still being felt today – with a cholera outbreak linked to the rescue efforts.



People working together to retrieve goods from a damaged building in Port-au-Prince



US soldiers help the crew of a US Navy helicopter unload food and supplies at the Port-au-Prince airport



Debris and destruction in the streets of the neighbourhood of Bel-Air in Port-au-Prince after the earthquake struck

© Melanie Zeeb, Free Vector Maps/Alamy

What if...

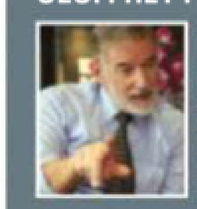
The Spanish Armada had succeeded?

ENGLAND, 1588

Written by Ben Biggs

© McDEM PRESS

GEOFFREY PARKER



The award-winning professor of history and an associate of the Mershon Center at The Ohio State University, has written about the social, political and military history of early modern Europe. His best-known books are *The Military Revolution* and *The Grand Strategy Of Philip II*. His new biography of Philip II, called *Imprudent King*, will be available on 28 October.

What if the Spanish Armada had succeeded?
Then I don't see why they shouldn't have been able to land at Margate and make it to London marching along the south bank of the Thames and perhaps getting to Kingston where there's a bridge and then turning back, marching into London and taking the capital. It had no walls worth speaking of and [the Duke of] Parma would have had a siege train. I think once they got ashore, the Spanish would have been irresistible.

So if the Spanish had played their hand differently they could have landed on British soil?
Yes. Obviously it's always dangerous to speculate with what ifs. What we need to do is ask ourselves two questions: the first is a minimal re-write... you can change little things. Second, you have to ask yourself in the end, even if all these changes were made, whether the long-term picture would have been different. What you might call a 'second order counter-factual.' The English are defeated, but what happens in the long term?

I think we have some pretty good indications. It was thought the Spanish would land in Essex, where the big army is, and neglect Kent, which is in fact the spot where Parma is going to land. You can't have your troops everywhere and the English make a guess - and it's wrong. In 1592, the Duke of Parma had a similarly difficult operation to understand and that is to get his troops in to France and relieve the town of Rouen, which is about 80 miles [130 kilometres] away. They do it in seven days against a hostile enemy.

I do have a parallel for you: the Germans at D-Day had a very similar calculation to Elizabeth Tudor. That is to say, do you as Rommel wanted, spread the troops evenly out along the shore. Or do you as Von Rundstedt, spread a few troops along the shore and have a main reserve?

The Spanish Army of Flanders was on the other side of the Channel - what was the plan to get it to England?
Here's the re-write, you see. The fleet would have come up from Spain, somehow communicate to Parma [the head of the Spanish army] that it's on its way so that Parma's troops are already in their little boats. They know the Dutch [England's ally] will be waiting so there are four very powerful 'galleasses' [battleships]. These had done very well in previous operations - they had 50 guns so were as powerful as Queen Elizabeth's galleon. The idea is that these galleasses, which are very shallow draft, go right in and bring Parma's fleet out. The Dutch can't do anything to stop it because none of their ships are armed in a way that could possibly stop the galleases doing their job. Once you get them into the middle of the Armada, it sails across and the galleasses do the same thing on the Kent shore, preventing anything from intercepting the landing craft.

The Army of Flanders Philip II had mustered was large, highly trained and had a fearsome reputation. Could this army have prevailed on British soil?
I don't think there's any doubt that, man for man, the Spanish army is superior. The one thing it doesn't have is cavalry. But the English don't have much cavalry either and however well trained the English are, if they're not superior man-for-man, 28,000 will overwhelm 7,000. The English have no field artillery, no fortifications south of the Thames. Even London's walls are primitive.

30 years before there is a rebellion by someone called Thomas Wyatt against Philip II which starts in Kent. Wyatt and his troops march exactly the route Parma would have taken. They cross the Thames at Kingston and they get right

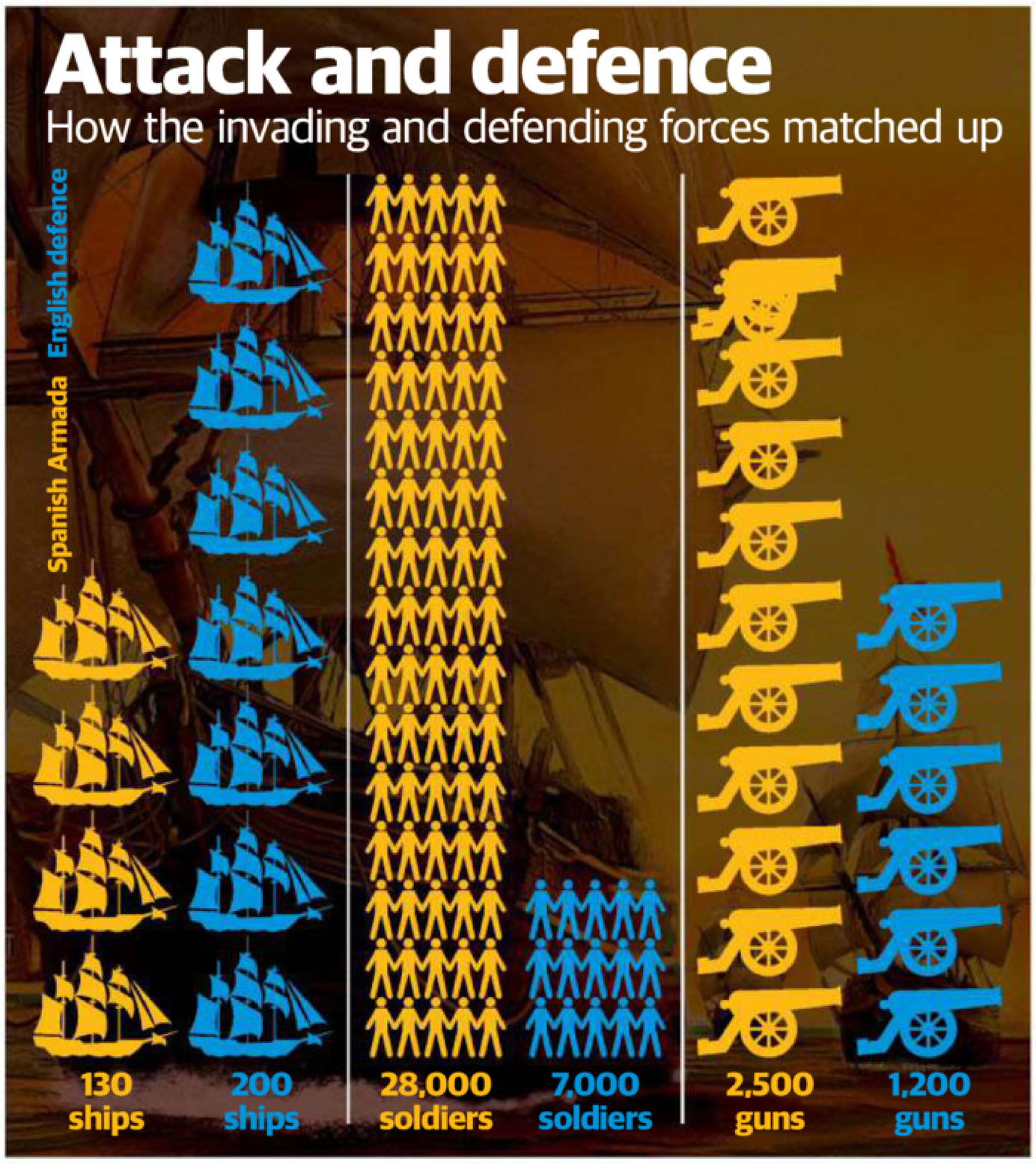
What if...

THE SPANISH ARMADA HAD SUCCEEDED?

> “London’s walls would have come crashing down”

© Anna Ashby

The Spanish Armada could have sailed up the Thames and taken London by force



"They're terrible men [...] They're going to rape your women, flog you then force you to go back to mass"

up to the walls of London. The only reason why they stop is that they have no artillery and in the end the rebellion crumbles. But Parma would have had a siege train of about 20 guns - London's walls would have come crashing down.

Philip II's ideal goal was to take Westminster with Elizabeth and the Parliament in it. Was this likely?
I think we're getting to fantasy land. As soon as the Armada lands, the English Catholics would be up and one of them would have murdered her. I don't think they would capture Elizabeth, there would be an assassination. Then you have a Tudor state like a headless chicken.

Could Philip II have mustered support from the natives if his army had landed?
They themselves [the Spaniards] assume nothing. They assume there will be no Catholic uprising or, if there is a Catholic uprising, it will be in the Northwest, not as they would need it to be in the South and the East. Protestantism is a new religion and even Elizabeth goes to mass in 1559 until she's absolutely sure she has peace with France, that her sister's war with France has been extinguished, so she still pretends to be Catholic.

I think there are people who would like to go back to being Catholic but in terms of a fifth column, in terms of there being a resistance similar to the one in June 1944 in Normandy, I don't think there would have been enough supporters of the invasion to make a difference.

The Duke of Parma had a history of bribing commanders to give up their strongholds. Would many towns in England have done the same?
We do know some of the Anglo-Irish commanders in the Netherlands are bribed. Is that possible in England? Why not? The Anglo-Irish commanders in the Netherlands are all hand picked by Elizabeth. If she chose people who were ideologically unsound as allies, she might well have made the same mistake back in England. We do know the third-in-command, a man called Roger Williams, had spent three years fighting with the Spaniards himself. He was an admirer of the Spaniards and who's to tell whether he might have [defected] if push came to shove, especially if [Elizabeth] is dead. I mean,

How would it be different?

Real timeline

1558

Elizabeth crowned
England's Catholic queen, Mary I, wife of Spanish King Philip II, dies. Her successor is Elizabeth I, who denounces the faith in favour of Protestantism in 1559. Devout Catholic Philip II is furious.
1558



New calendar
The ancient (and inaccurate) Julian calendar is thrown out and the new Gregorian calendar is introduced in several European countries. Being a Catholic innovation, Protestant England refuses to adopt it until 1752, putting its dates out by 11 days.
1582

Mary executed
Elizabeth lights the touch paper of war with Spain when she has her Catholic cousin, Mary, Queen of Scots, beheaded. Philip makes plans to invade England and overthrow the Protestant regime.
1587



The fleet sets sail
A fleet of 130 ships sets sail from Lisbon. On board are 20,000 soldiers and 2,500 guns, with a siege train to take down London's walls. The Army of Flanders, numbering nearly 30,000, awaits the Armada in the Netherlands.
28 May 1588



Real timeline

Alternate timeline

Attack on Plymouth Harbour
Pressing the obvious advantage, the Spanish Armada sails into Plymouth Harbour and rains hell down upon a large portion of the English fleet. Anchored in harbour and the tide against them, many English ships are destroyed and scattered, leaving the Navy crippled.
19 July 1588

who are you fighting for? She has no heir – her heir was Mary, Queen of Scots and she had her executed the year before the Armada arrived. So it's hard to see who would have served as the rallying point. Would you really want to fight for James VI of Scotland? I don't think so. But again, Philip and Parma can't count on it – they reckon overwhelming force will do the job.

Elizabeth gave her famous 'Tilbury' speech during the Spanish offensive. To what extent did a successful defence of Britain galvanise her reign?
The first written account of it is 1623, we don't hear about it until then and then someone says 'I remember, when I was a boy...' How do we know she made that speech and what she said? Cate Blanchett's version is about as likely as the one recorded by Lionel Sharp in 1623!

We're thinking in 20th-century terms. A speech like Churchill's speech in the 1940s: "We will fight them on the beaches [...] we will never surrender." That's broadcast by radio, but Elizabeth doesn't have radio. What you do have is the pulpits. What the pulpits insist is that when these Catholics come, you're going to be very sorry: they're terrible men, they're bringing Jesuits with them, they're bringing whips. They're going to rape your women, flog you then force you to go back to mass. So I think if you're looking for something that galvanises resistance, it would be the religious card, not the political card.

How much of a knock-on effect do you think this would have had on the following century of Britain's history?
I don't think the Gunpowder Plot would have happened, because if Elizabeth gives up some concessions to Catholicism, there's no reason for the Catholics to hate James VI.


The battle with the Spanish Armada claimed thousands of lives, more from storms than gunfire

But we're concentrating on one side. We also have to consider that Philip II is still Philip II. His son Philip III is the child of Philip and his niece. There are already a large number of what we would call incestuous unions [in the family]. So Philip II dies and Philip III is left, a weak leader. His grandchildren will eventually lose Spain and the dynasty dies out in the 17th century. Even if Spain wins, they're going to have more to lose, they can't defend what they have. Having England as a satellite and regaining the Netherlands – yes, in the short term, a great success. But the Hapsburgs are still Hapsburgs, they will breed and marry with each other. You can't change that and I think in the long term that England, if it had remained independent, if the Tudor dynasty had survived, you still get James VI, so you get reconciliation with Spain. Philip II remains a Hapsburg so his son will not have the skill to keep the empire together. However successful the Armada is, you still get Philip III who will lose whatever gains his father would have made.

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Peace negotiations
The same day the Armada sails, English ambassador Valentine Dale meets with Spanish negotiators in Warburg. Unknown to England, Spain has already chosen war and is using the negotiations to distract Elizabeth.
28 May 1588

Negotiations abandoned
News of the Armada's approach reaches England and peace negotiations are called off. Elizabeth's fleet is poorly prepared and sorely outgunned. The knowledge that the powerful Army of Flanders is on the other side of the Channel does little to allay England's concerns.
16 July 1588

The Armada is sighted
Bad weather works in England's favour for the first and not the last time during the attempted Spanish invasion. It delays the Armada and forces several ships to return to Spain. The rest of the fleet is finally sighted off Cornwall in Southwest England.
19 July 1588

First blood
Under direct orders from Philip II, the Spanish fleet forsakes an opportunity to attack part of the English fleet while it is anchored in Plymouth Harbour. Instead, the Armada faces Francis Drake's weaker but faster ships – this results in a stalemate.
21 July 1588

The tide turns
While the Armada takes harbour on the French coast, the English fleet sends eight fire ships, filled with explosive pitch and gunpowder, into the anchored Spanish fleet, scattering them.
28 July 1588

Back to sea
Another engagement with the English fleet further east of Plymouth, off Portland, is intended to gain the Armada a temporary harbour between the Isle of Wight and England. But a successful defence forces it back out to sea: instead, it heads for Calais.
23 July 1588



Battle of Gravelines
The English fleet returns with a larger naval force and decisively beats the Spanish at Gravelines, northern France.
8 August 1588

Safe haven
Flush with its first success, the Armada moves into the Solent where it's able to create a safe harbour between the Isle of Wight and England.
23 July 1588

Escort
Using a small but powerful part of its fleet, the galleasses, the Spanish sail to the Netherlands, where the Army of Flanders awaits in barges. They escort the remaining men across the Channel.
9 August 1588

Marching in
The Army of Flanders makes landfall in Kent and begins an irresistible march through the English countryside, capturing and pillaging towns as they go. London is only a week away.
10 August 1588

Elizabeth I assassinated
With news of the Spanish reaching London, the Catholics begin to revolt. Elizabeth's fate is sealed regardless, but whether for the sake of revenge or to make sure she has her comeuppance for Catholic repression, she is assassinated.
11 August 1588

England beaten
Spain reaches London. With a flotilla of Spanish ships on the Thames, the Duke of Parma's siege train makes short work of London's ancient walls and fortifications. The city falls and the battle is won.
17 August 1588

Bluffer's Guide
The Boxer Rebellion

CHINA
1898-1901

The Boxers used the slogan "Support the Qing, destroy the foreigners"

What was it?

The Boxer Rebellion was an anti-foreign and anti-Christian uprising that occurred in China between 1898 and 1901. Beginning as the actions of a secret society of peasants, the rebellion was officially backed by Empress Dowager Cixi and swept across the countryside to the capital Beijing, massacring thousands of missionaries and Chinese Christians on the way.

Why did it start?

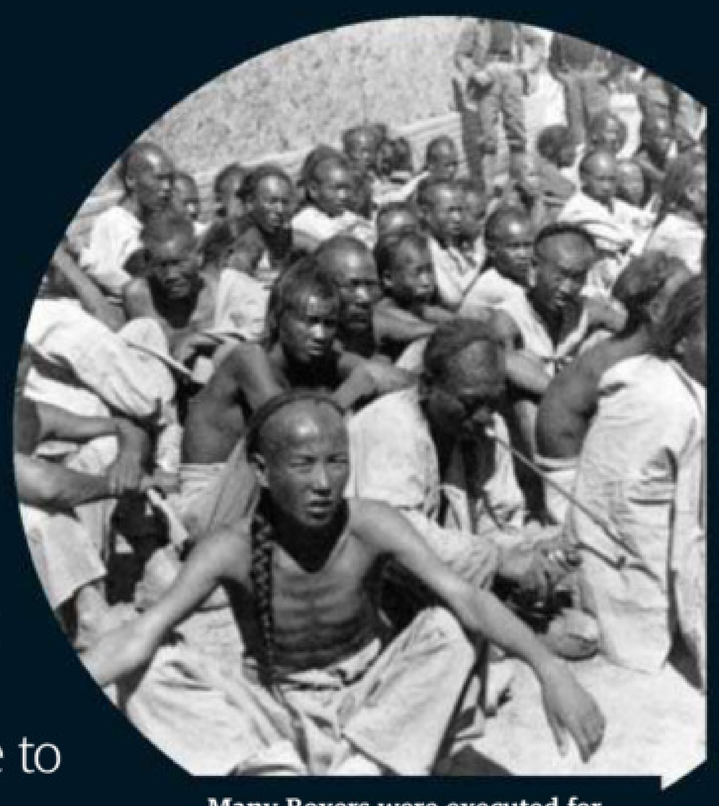
China had been plagued by economic struggles and many areas had suffered flooding and droughts. The Boxers blamed their poor living conditions on the foreign colonists. They also believed increasing foreign influence over the ruling Qing dynasty and the spread of the idea of Christianity was robbing China of its cultural identity.

The secret society

The Boxers began as a group of Chinese peasants who united to form the secret society of I-ho ch'üan ('Righteous and Harmonious Fists'), nicknamed the 'Boxers.' The group performed calisthenic rituals and boxing techniques that they believed made them invulnerable to western weapons.

Carnival of Loot

On August 14, 1900, an international force captured Beijing and mass looting was conducted by the foreign soldiers. Accusations flew between the armies of which were the worst looters. The British army claimed to carry out looting in 'the most orderly manner', while the US commander's ban on looting did little to stop his forces participating.



Many Boxers were executed for their participation in the uprising

"The Boxers blamed poor living conditions on the foreign colonists"



Empress Dowager Cixi was the Chinese leader during the Boxer Rebellion

A dynasty falls

The Boxer Protocol, signed in 1901, demanded that forts protecting Beijing be destroyed, punishment of officials involved and reparations of more than $330 million to be paid by China. This fatally weakened the Qing dynasty, which was finally brought to its knees by an uprising in 1911. By 1912 China had become a republic.

The Boxer legacy

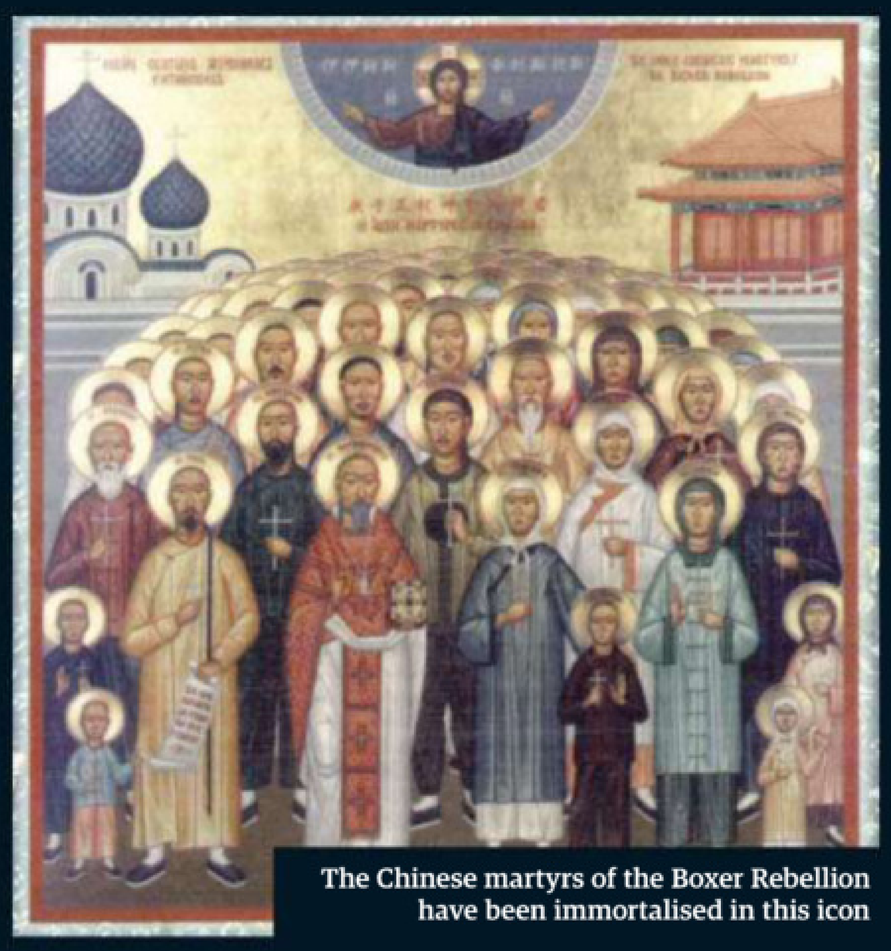
In 1907 Theodore Roosevelt returned the money received by the US as a result of the Boxer Rebellion to China. It was returned on the condition it be used to fund education. This resulted in the Boxer Indemnity Scholarship Program, allowing Chinese students to study in the US. The UK, France and Japan soon set up similar programmes.

The President fights

Of the many foreigners trapped in Tianjin, one - an American mining engineer - was fated to become the 31st president of the United States. Herbert Hoover and his future first lady found themselves under fire and joined in the defence of the city. Utilising his knowledge of the terrain, Hoover guided US marines around the city, while Mrs Hoover wielded a .38-calibre pistol.

Widespread massacre

The Boxers and the Chinese government massacred Catholic and Protestant missionaries, as well as their Chinese followers en masse throughout Northern China. By the end of the rebellion, 30,000 Chinese Catholics, 2,000 Chinese Protestants and over 200 foreign missionaries, priests, nuns and children had been mercilessly killed across at least 26 prefectures.



The Chinese martyrs of the Boxer Rebellion have been immortalised in this icon

Key figures

Empress Dowager Cixi
1835-1908
Her support of the Boxers made the rebellion an all-but formal declaration of war on foreign powers in the country.

Alfred Gaselee
1844-1918
The British general led the international force and quickly defeated the Chinese army.

Zaiyi
1856-1922
One of their main leaders, Zaiyi commanded the Boxers who besieged the Beitang cathedral.

Guwalgiya Ronglu
1836-1903
The Chinese commander secretly blocked the transfer of artillery, preventing the legations from being destroyed.

Cao Futian
unknown-1901
The leader of the Boxers, his headquarters is now a memorial hall of the Boxer Rebellion.

Major events

The Boxers rise
1898-1900
Young men form a secret society and begin burning churches, massacring missionaries and converts.

Official backing
21 June 1900
Empress Dowager Cixi gives support to the Boxers, authorising war on foreign powers.

Siege of the Legations
20 June - 14 August 1900
The Chinese army and Boxers besiege the legations where foreign civilians and Chinese Christians are sheltering.

Foreign armies arrive
14 August 1900
The relief force reaches Beijing and lifts the siege on the legations, easily crushing the Chinese forces.

Boxer Protocol
7 September 1901
The Boxer Protocol is signed, the Qing dynasty agrees to pay the foreign powers large amounts over 39 years.

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VICTORIA'S EMPIRE



How a tiny island in the Atlantic Ocean came to own an empire so large that the sun never set on it

Written by Frances White

The date was 22 January 1901 and the British Empire was the largest of any in human history, but the monarch who reigned over it would not live another day. As Queen Victoria lay dying in Osborne House on the Isle of Wight she looked back on a reign that spanned over 63 years. She had seen her empire grow from a collection of scattered isles, separated by vast plains of lands and insurmountable oceans, to the greatest the world had known. It had reached over India, plucked its riches and mounted it as the glimmering jewel in her crown. It had butchered its way mercilessly across Africa at the cost of thousands of British corpses and countless natives who had tried in vain to stand in its way. It was powered forward both by Christian values and colonial greed, so as Victoria drew her last breath, she left a world forever transformed by the empire she had built.

When a young Princess Victoria ascended the steps of Westminster Abbey on her coronation day, few would have foreseen the mighty empire she would eventually rule over. The British public were increasingly disenchanted with the monarchy and her grandfather, the mad king George III, had failed to protect British interest in the Americas, and her uncle George IV's terrible relations with his wife and reckless spending had tarnished the monarchy's prestige. At a mere 18 years and barely 150 centimetres (five feet) tall, Victoria hardly seemed a fitting patron for the vast ambitions of British expansion from the 17th century. But this blue-eyed, silvery-voiced lady possessed a stubborn will of iron and her reign would become the longest in British history. Her ascension marked not the death of the British Empire, but the new dawn of a kingdom so massive that none could ever hope to challenge it.

The world was changing as Victoria took her place on the throne. The tiny, scattered rural villages of England were being abandoned en masse and the cities were transforming into sprawling metropolises. Great towering concrete chimneys rose from the ground and the whirr of machines sounded across the country - the age of steam had arrived. The Industrial Revolution

"The British Empire had the might, ingenuity and limitless ambition to conquer the world"

QUEEN VICTORIA

British, 1819-1901

Brief Bio

Victoria served as monarch of the United Kingdom from 20 June 1837 until her death on 22 January 1901. At 63 years her reign is currently the longest in British history, and is associated with the Industrial Revolution, economic progress and most notably, the expansion of the British Empire to the largest domain of all time.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST EMPIRE

How much of the world Britannia ruled by 1901



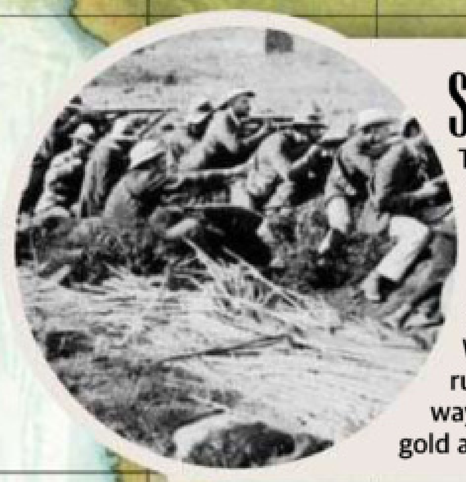
Egypt

Finding itself in economic rot, Egypt sold half its stake in the Suez Canal to Britain. This prompted an eventual revolt and launched the 1882 Anglo-Egyptian War. Britain won and took the country under its control. Egypt provided a vital trade route between Britain and India, cutting out the long journey around Africa.



Canada

England captured Canada from France after the Seven Years' War in 1763, also known as the French and Indian War. As well as adding a massive landmass to the British Empire's bragging rights, Canada was a resource-rich country with a small population. Canada provided ample trade of timber, ores and furs.



South Africa

The British gained control of the Cape of Good Hope in the early-19th century and set up a colony. When South African Dutch settlers felt their territory was at risk, the two powers engaged in a series of military clashes known as the Boer Wars, leading the Boers to submit to British rule. Serving as a stopping station on the way to India, Southern Africa was also rich in gold and diamonds.

5 things you probably didn't know about Benjamin Disraeli

1. Born to Italian-Jewish parents, Disraeli was the first British prime minister with a Jewish heritage, though he was baptised as a Christian.
2. Disraeli pursued many early business ventures that failed, leaving him in crippling debt, leading to a nervous breakdown from which it took him years to recover.
3. He was mocked in Parliament when he made his maiden speech. Later he proclaimed that "the time will come when you will hear me."
4. Disraeli was a notorious flatterer and when asked by a colleague how to deal with Queen Victoria, he replied: "First of all, remember she is a woman."
5. He introduced much legislation that benefited the poor, such as the 1877 Artisans Dwelling Act that provided housing, as well as the Public Health Act the same year.

"The loss of the love of her life changed not only herself as a person, but the fate of her empire"

changed Britain from a quaint maritime nation into a manufacturing colossus. Railways and steamships brought the British overseas territory closer to the mother country, opening up opportunities for trade and commerce that were previously unfathomable.

It was Albert, Victoria's beloved husband, who opened her and Britain's eyes to the ideas that went on to shape her empire. Fascinated by mechanisms and inventions, Albert organised The Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace – a temple to the ingenuity of the rapidly developing modern world. Inventions from around the world were displayed, but this was Britain's show, first and foremost. The symbols of British might, which occupied half of the entire display space, served as clear examples of what the British Empire was capable of and fostered the ideas of national supremacy in the eyes of Victoria, the government and the majority of the British population. The Great Exhibition proved that far from the crumbling remains of a once-powerful nation, the British Empire had the might, ingenuity and limitless ambition to conquer the world.

The opportunity to pave the road for this empire arose in 1857 with the Indian Mutiny. India had

Australia

British involvement in Australia began when Captain James Cook landed on the continent in the late-18th century. The number of Aboriginals living there quickly plummeted because of European diseases and loss of land. Australia became a penal colony and thousands of British convicts were transported there as punishment. When gold was discovered there, British immigrants raced to the sandy shores in search of their fortune.



India

After largely being controlled by the East India Company, India became part of the British Empire after the Government of India Act in 1858. Known as the 'jewel in the crown', India was the most valuable piece of Britain's empire, with lucrative trade from spices, jewels and textiles. The most important provision of India, though, was its manpower, which contributed massively to Britain's military might.

TIMELINE OF CONQUEST

How Victoria's British Empire became the world's biggest

- 1838 PICAIRN ISLANDS
- 1842 HONG KONG
- 1848 INDIA
- 1853 TRUCIAL OMAN (TRINIDAD & TOBAGO)
- 1857 ADEN (YEMEN)
- 1862 BRITISH HONDURAS (BELIZE)
- 1868 BECHUANANLAND (BOTSWANA)
- 1874 FIJI
- 1878 CYPRUS
- 1878 SOUTH WEST AFRICA (NAMIBIA)
- 1881 NORTH BORNEO (SABAH)
- 1884 BASUTOLAND (LESOTHO)
- 1884 BRITISH SOMALILAND (SOMALILAND)
- 1884 PAPUA NEW GUINEA
- 1885 NIGERIA
- 1885 KENYA
- 1887 MALDIVE ISLANDS
- 1888 BRITISH EAST AFRICA (KENYA)
- 1888 BRUNEI
- 1888 COOK ISLANDS (NZ ASSOC)
- 1888 GAMBIA
- 1888 SARAWAK (MALAYSIA)
- 1889 RHODESIA (ZIMBABWE)
- 1889 TRINIDAD (TRINIDAD & TOBAGO)
- 1890 TANGANYIKA (TANZANIA)
- 1891 MALAWI
- 1894 UGANDA
- 1898 SUDAN
- 1899 KUWAIT

been ruled by a private entity - the East India Company - from 1757. The rebellion manifested the discontent felt by the Indian people for the blatant disrespect of their beliefs and customs. The company showed disregard for the Indian caste system and issued new cartridges greased with cow and pig fat that had to be opened with the mouth, highly offensive to Muslim and Hindu soldiers. These actions opened the eyes of the Indian people to the daily injustice they were being subjected to, and unrest snowballed into mass riots and an uprising. Although the mutiny was eventually quelled, the rebellion led to the dissolution of the company, the passing of power to the British state and the creation of what Victoria would call the jewel in her crown - the British Indian Empire.

Queen Victoria welcomed the country to her empire in a lavish ceremony, promising that Indian native customs and religions would be respected and that she would "draw a veil over the sad and bloody past." She presented herself as a maternal figure and a crusader for peace, justice and honest government - ideals largely inspired by her husband. Albert had instilled in her mind the vision of King Arthur's Camelot, an empire ruled not by tyranny but by justice, where the strong serve the weak, where good triumphs over evil, bringing not oppression and bloodshed, but trade, education and welfare. His influence on Victoria was immense and when on 14 December 1861 he died of suspected typhoid fever, the empire veered into an entirely new direction.

When Albert drew his last breath in the blue room at Windsor Castle the queen was inconsolable; the loss of the love of her life changed not only herself as a person, but the fate of her empire. As she donned the mourning clothes she would wear until her own death, she drew a veil over Albert's vision and pursued a different path for her kingdom - one of world domination.

An emerging figure in Parliament would come to foster her views - Benjamin Disraeli. The ambitious and rebellious leader of the Conservatives was led by a passion for imperial power and glory. Inspired by tales of imperial adventures, Disraeli believed Britain should pursue an empire of power and prestige. His most direct political opponent represented everything Albert dreamed the empire

WHAT WAS THE EAST INDIA COMPANY?

Emerging from humble beginnings, the East India Company began as a simple enterprise of London businessmen who wanted to make money from importing spices. The company was granted a royal charter by Queen Elizabeth I in 1600, and in 1601 James Lancaster led its first voyage. The company set up trade outposts in Indian settlements that slowly developed into commercial towns. Steadily increasing its territory, the company claimed vital trading ports from Aden to Penang. As its control extended, the company became the most powerful private company in history, with its own army established by Robert Clive, the first British governor of Bengal. With its great military power behind it, the company controlled India with a combination of direct rule and alliances with Indian princes. The East India Company eventually accounted for half the world's trade and specialised in cotton, silk, tea and opium.

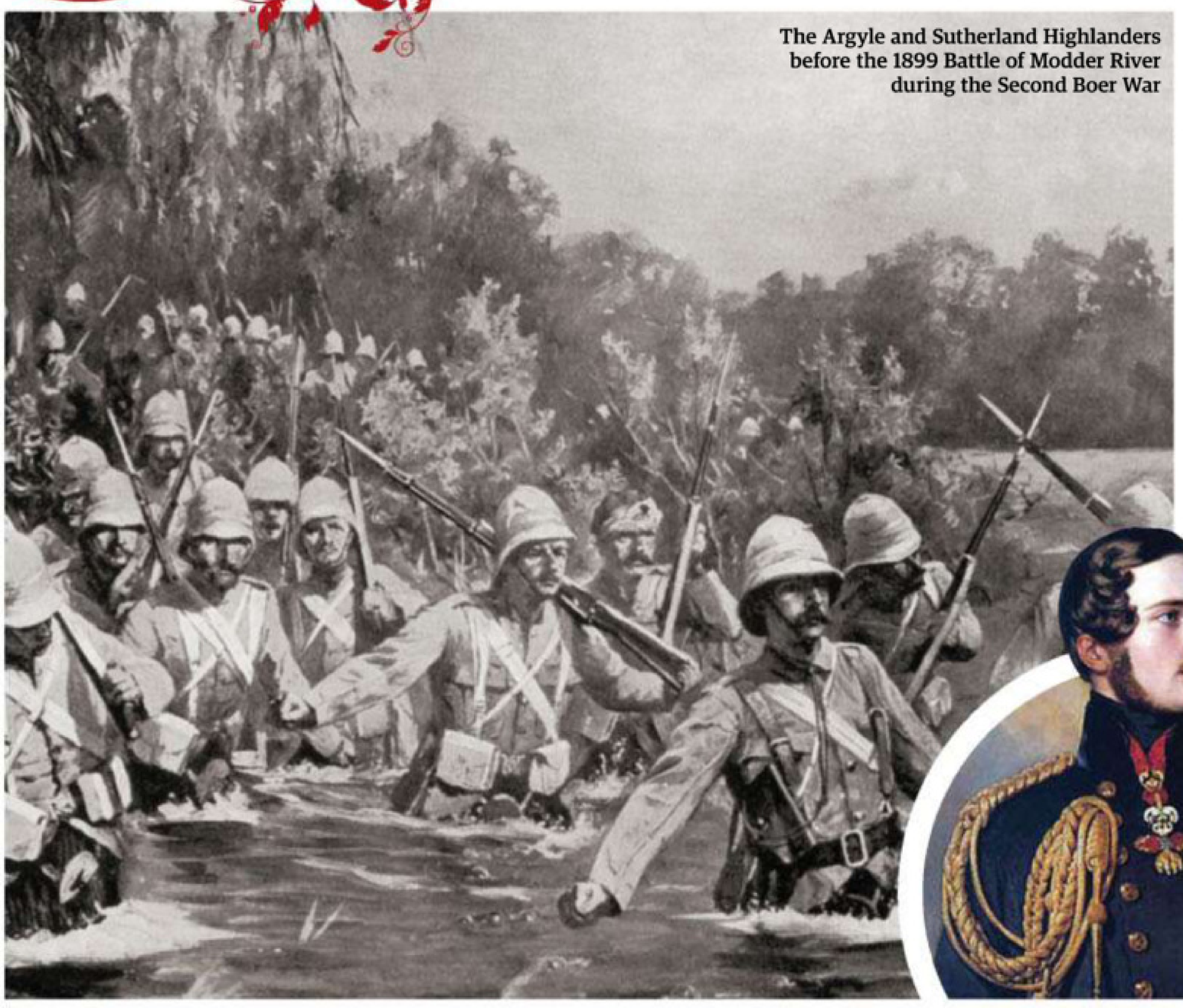


Lancaster was an Elizabethan trader and privateer



A satirical cartoon from 1876 poking fun at the relationship between Queen Victoria and Benjamin Disraeli





The Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders before the 1899 Battle of Modder River during the Second Boer War

could be. William Gladstone, the leader of the Liberals, thought the empire should serve a high moral purpose, to follow not a path of conquest but one of commerce, sharing their moral vision with the rest of the world.

These two fiery and driven men fought over these opposing visions in Parliament as Victoria continued to mourn. Without Albert she felt incompetent and unable to face the immense duty that her role dictated. With her strong conservative views she found Gladstone and his liberal reforms dangerous and unpredictable. Disraeli, suave, coy and dripping with forthright confidence, enchanted the lonely queen. With his constant flattery and sharp wit, Disraeli reignited her interest in politics and captivated her, as Albert had done so previously, with his vision of just how mighty the empire could be. However, Gladstone's liberal vision and Albert's quest for Camelot had not completely faded. The British people, led by strong Protestant beliefs Victoria herself had instilled in them, felt it was Britain's role - their duty even - to civilise people around the world. They believed the British cause was to export not only trade, but also gospel values of morality and justice.

It was in pursuit of this lofty goal that many missionaries



A British marketing poster promoting the Suez Canal - the waterway was an important factor in the growth of the empire

"The Industrial Revolution changed Britain from a quaint maritime nation into a manufacturing giant"

turned their attention to Africa. Little was known of the 'Dark Continent', but the common perception was that it was a place of pagan worship ravaged by tribal wars. One missionary in particular would capture the attention of the British nation. Tall, handsome and heroic, David Livingstone embodied everything the British believed their nation to represent. A medical missionary, Livingstone's daring adventures around the continent were followed by a captivated British public. Fighting vicious beasts, battling through dense jungles and suffering a multitude of illnesses, Livingstone was the heroic face of the empire's Christian ideals.

Livingstone's horrific confrontation with African chain gangs was to drive the British cause of expansion. The slavery rife in Africa was abhorrent to Livingstone and the British public, as the practice had been abolished across the empire in 1833. The queen and government united behind Livingstone's quest to find a suitable trade route, hoping that by doing so, the African people would find ways to make a living that wasn't built on the backs of slaves. Livingstone's journey was a failure and he returned to scathing criticism - something the imperialist Disraeli leapt on with glee. His flattery of Victoria had completely won her over and the monarchy and government became united in pursuit of one goal - the expansion of the empire.

The perfect opportunity to begin this new empire emerged as another nation struggled to survive. The Egyptian ruler, Isma'il Pasha, was confronted with crippling debts after reckless spending on lavish ceremonies and a costly war with Ethiopia. In an act of desperation he made an offer to sell to the British Egypt's shares in the Suez Canal. The canal was more than a mere trading port; it opened up a short route to India across Egypt and down the Red Sea, cutting out the lengthy journey around Africa. The Egyptian ruler's offer would give the British controlling influence over the jugular of the empire, so Disraeli urged Victoria to accept. She immediately did and the Suez Canal fell into British hands.

With control of India, Britain was already the most powerful nation on Earth and three-quarters of the world's trade was transported in British ships, but this control was being threatened. The Russian Empire had been steadily expanding east

FIVE REASONS THE BRITISH EMPIRE CAME TO RULE THE WORD

DOMINANCE OF THE SEAS

Britain employed a 'two-power standard' in 1889 which called for the Royal Navy to maintain a force at least equal to the combined strength of the next two largest navies in the world. This policy ensured British dominance of the seas with a string of naval bases encompassing the whole world. The pure size and strength of the navy served its purpose – deterring any would be competitors and confirming its position as ruler of the waves.

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Britain was the first nation to harness the power of steam and the first to undergo an industrial revolution. This resulted in mass production of low-cost goods to trade around the world. It also gave Britain's military an array of resources like rifles, steamships and trains, equipping it to defeat any possible enemies. Medical advances also allowed British explorers to penetrate remote areas without fear of tropical diseases.

THE QUEST TO SPREAD DEMOCRACY

Land grabbing aside, the British Empire was led by a strong Protestant desire to improve the world. Britain saw itself as an agent of civilisation – one they wanted to spread worldwide, bringing peace, order and stability. This belief that they were doing genuine good led men like David Livingstone to travel to Africa to spread the word of God, and with it, the British Empire.

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE COMPETITION

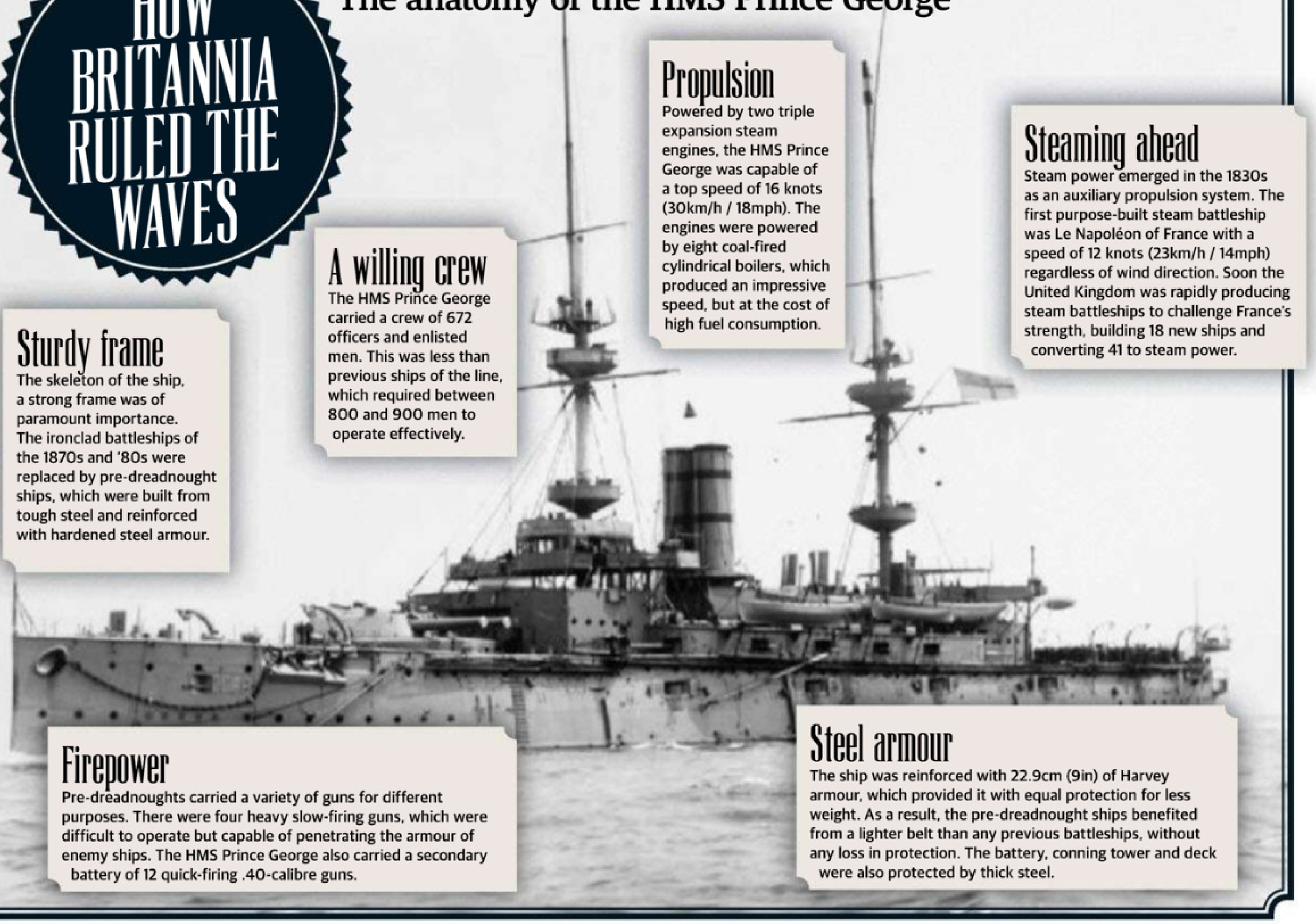
As major powers of the world such as Spain, France, the Netherlands and the Ottomans were losing power, the British began to peak in strength. Britain was able to take advantage of the European wars that had weakened other nations as it enjoyed a period of relative peace, allowing uninterrupted expansion of its empire. Any threats that did emerge, such as Russia, just gave Britain new zeal to cement its powerful hold on the world.

STRONG LEADERSHIP

Britain was ruled by a single monarch throughout most of the 19th century – Queen Victoria. The record-breaking length of her reign brought a sense of stability and contributed to the unconquerable notion of the British Empire. Although Victoria did involve herself in government, her role was symbolic rather than one of direct power, which ensured stability of British politics. While other nations were dealing with socialist movements, Britain enjoyed a long period of relative domestic peace.

HOW BRITANNIA RULED THE WAVES

The anatomy of the HMS Prince George



Sturdy frame
The skeleton of the ship, a strong frame was of paramount importance. The ironclad battleships of the 1870s and '80s were replaced by pre-dreadnought ships, which were built from tough steel and reinforced with hardened steel armour.

A willing crew
The HMS Prince George carried a crew of 672 officers and enlisted men. This was less than previous ships of the line, which required between 800 and 900 men to operate effectively.

Propulsion
Powered by two triple expansion steam engines, the HMS Prince George was capable of a top speed of 16 knots (30km/h / 18mph). The engines were powered by eight coal-fired cylindrical boilers, which produced an impressive speed, but at the cost of high fuel consumption.

Steaming ahead
Steam power emerged in the 1830s as an auxiliary propulsion system. The first purpose-built steam battleship was Le Napoléon of France with a speed of 12 knots (23km/h / 14mph) regardless of wind direction. Soon the United Kingdom was rapidly producing steam battleships to challenge France's strength, building 18 new ships and converting 41 to steam power.

Firepower
Pre-dreadnoughts carried a variety of guns for different purposes. There were four heavy slow-firing guns, which were difficult to operate but capable of penetrating the armour of enemy ships. The HMS Prince George also carried a secondary battery of 12 quick-firing .40-calibre guns.

Steel armour
The ship was reinforced with 22.9cm (9in) of Harvey armour, which provided it with equal protection for less weight. As a result, the pre-dreadnought ships benefited from a lighter belt than any previous battleships, without any loss in protection. The battery, conning tower and deck were also protected by thick steel.

and south and was getting uncomfortably close to Victoria's prized jewel - India. The Middle East was largely controlled by the Turks, but they were busy dealing with violent rebellions. The Turkish treatment of their Christian subjects was shocking and atrocious, but as Russia backed the rebels the British had no option but to support the Turks. The British public, to whom Russia stood for everything Britain opposed - ignorance, slavery and subjugation - largely supported this choice. Facing the prospect of imminent war with the strongest nation on the planet, Russia agreed to peace talks and thanks in part to the charisma and negotiation skills of Disraeli, agreed to stop their advance on the Middle East.

Imperial spirit rushed through the public as the might of British muscle flexed and proved itself again. As the empire continued its steady expansion across the continent it came face to face with the most powerful African nation - the Zulus. The British, with a bloated ego, underestimated the strength of their spear-wielding enemies and suffered a crushing initial defeat. In the end it took 16,000 British reinforcements to prise the Zulus' independence from their grip. Expecting to return to a wave of praise for their daring exploits, the victorious army were surprised to discover that British opinions were changing once again.

Gladstone, the "half-mad firebrand", as Victoria dubbed him, preached his outraged opinions about the mass slaughter of Zulus and rampant destruction of their homes. Victoria was outraged but the public sided with Gladstone and, much to the queen's dismay, the power of the government switched hands once more. Liberal leader or not, all of Europe's attention was firmly fixed on Africa as nations began a scramble to establish colonies there. In amongst this mad rush to establish new territory by European powers, it was arguably one man's actions that would determine the ultimate fate of Victoria's empire.

Led by Muhammad Ahmed, revolution was tearing through the Sudan as tribes rose against their corrupt rulers. As this holy war drew uncomfortably close to the Suez Canal, Victoria urged Gladstone to utilise the British troops stationed there to defend it. The liberal leader refused. In order to buy time he sent one man, General Charles Gordon, to secure the evacuation of loyal civilians and soldiers.

Like Livingstone, Gordon was a national hero. He was brave, dashing, popular and his decorated military career had painted him in the British public's eyes as a gleaming knight of old. Despite these qualities Gordon was also wild and unpredictable. When he reached the Sudan he was horrified by the slavery rife in the region and decided to face the Mahdi in battle. With limited forces, Gordon soon found himself besieged in the city of Khartoum. His appeals for aid, to the adoring public's outrage, fell on deaf ears in the government. It took more than eight months of public fury to finally force Gladstone's hand, but it was too late - Gordon, the nation's hero of Christianity, was dead.

In an instance the liberal vision was shattered, Gladstone was voted out and his moral influence departed with him. The renewed crusading spirit of British imperialism found its poster boy in a



RIGHT 1892 caricature of Cecil Rhodes, after he announced plans for a telegraph line and railroad from Cape Town to Cairo

"They believed the British cause was to export not only trade, but also gospel values of morality and justice"

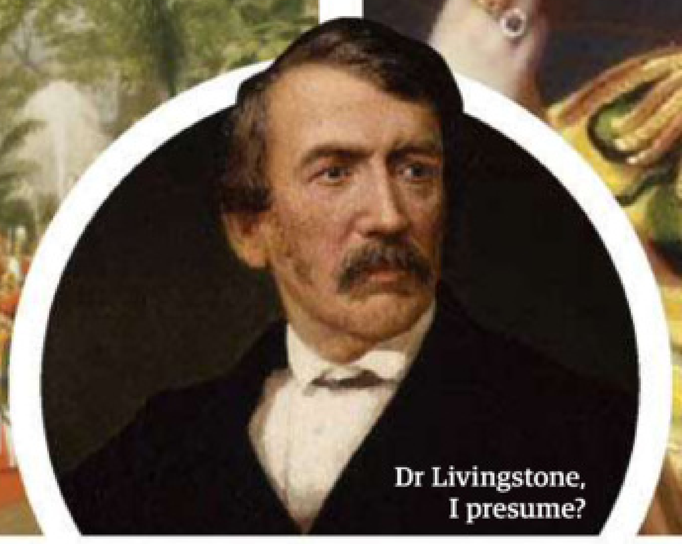
man who would lead the empire down a dark and dangerous path. Moving from England to Africa to work on a cotton farm, Cecil John Rhodes had become outrageously wealthy from the diamond rush, but he wanted more – the whole of Africa. Driven by greed and lust for power, Rhodes wished to create a British colony across Africa, not for the betterment of its people or to spread Christian values, but for profit and business.

Using the tenacity and cunning that had elevated him to success, Rhodes tricked and butchered his way across the continent with the British government backing him every bloody step of the way. Rhodes made it his purpose to make the world English and famously said: "If there be a God, I think that what he would like me to do is paint as much of the map of Africa British Red as possible." His path of colonial greed led Britain head-first into a conflict now known as the Boer Wars.

Gold had been found in Transvaal in northern South Africa and Rhodes worried that this would prompt an alliance with the Germans, thus cutting



The Great Exhibition of 1851 boosted Britain's national confidence



Dr Livingstone, I presume?



Paintings of Victoria in her youth are a world away from the traditional austere depiction of her

MAIN COMPETITORS Three countries that were battling with Britain for territory



Russia

As England expanded its territory, so did Russia. For a hundred years Russia expanded east and south, narrowing the gap between the British and Russian Empires in Central Asia. Britain soon became obsessed with protecting India which was a rich source of goods and manpower. The competition for dominance of the states that separated them – Iran, Afghanistan and Tibet – became commonly known as The Great Game. The looming, but unlikely, threat of Russia's attack led Britain into largely unnecessary military involvement in Afghanistan and Tibet.



Germany

From 1850 onward, Germany began to industrialise at an astonishing rate, transforming from a rural nation to a heavily urban one. In the space of a decade Germany's navy grew massively and became the only one able to challenge the British. Although the German Empire of the late-19th century consisted of only a few small colonies, the newly unified state slowly moved toward colonial expansion in Asia and the Pacific. As Wilhelm II rose to power, his aggressive policies in achieving a 'place in the sun' similar to Britain was one of the factors that would lead to WWI.



France

Britain's age-old rival France was still licking its wounds after the loss of most of its imperial colonies in the early part of the 19th century. However, French leaders began a mission to restore its prestige in 1850, seeking to claim land in North and West Africa as well as in Southeast Asia. After the defeat of France in the Franco-Prussian War, it still continued with zeal to expand its empire, acquiring land in China and all over Africa. Unlike most of its rivals, France would continue expanding after WWI, well into the 1930s.

7 EYE-WATERING EMPIRE FACTS

458 million
people ruled over

23%
of the world's surface was ruled by Britain

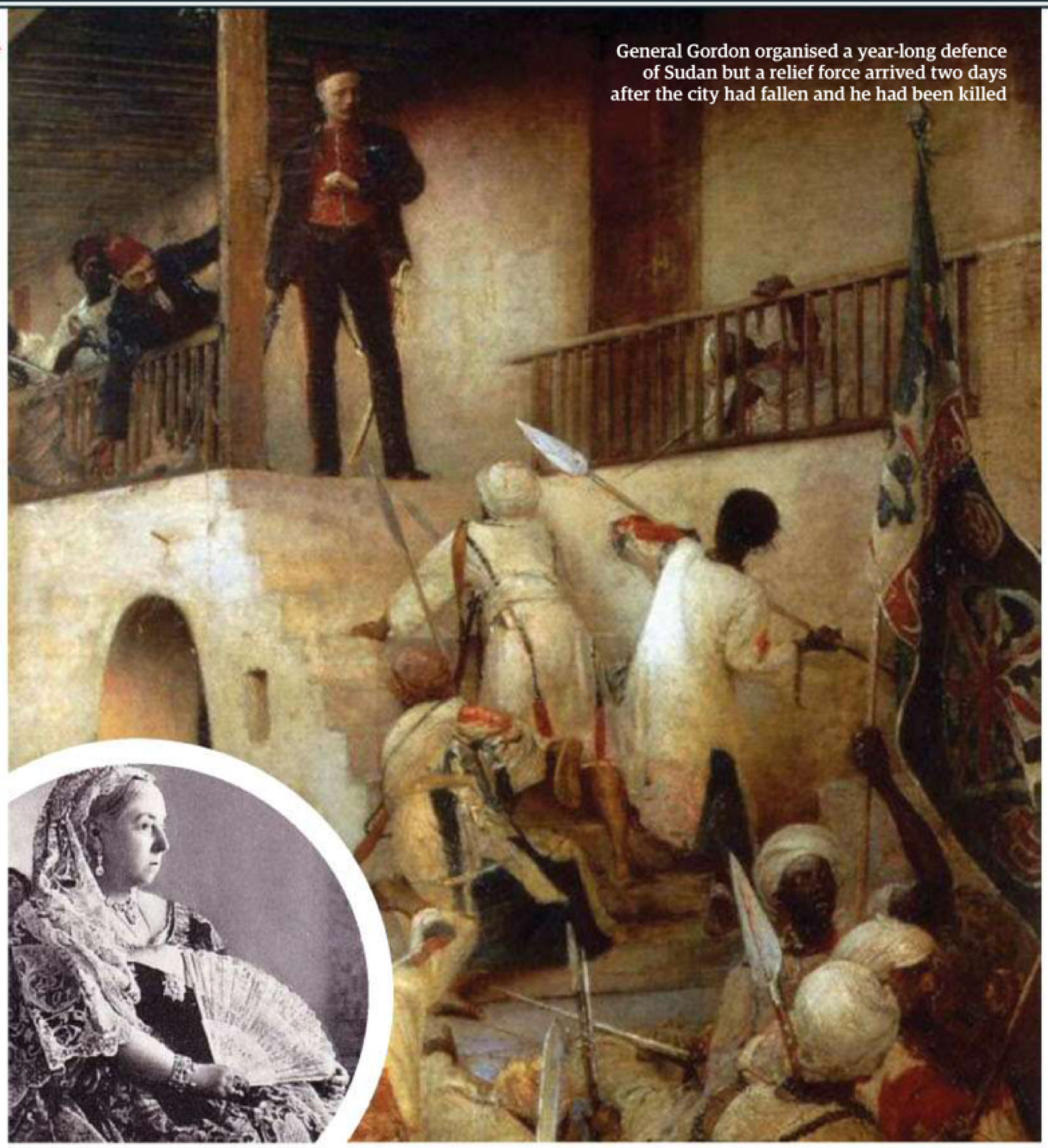
13.01 million
square miles of land belonged to the empire

113
ships in the Royal Navy

63 years & 21 days
the length of Victoria's reign

165,000
convicts sent to Australia

7,010,000
total goods shipped by Britain in one year (1881)



General Gordon organised a year-long defence of Sudan but a relief force arrived two days after the city had fallen and he had been killed

"The monarchy and government became united in pursuit of one goal – the expansion of the empire"

off his route to the north of the continent. Rhodes planned an uprising to overthrow the Boer leaders, but it did not go as planned – far from the naked, spear-wielding foes he had previously conquered, the Boers had guns, and they fought back hard with skill and courage.

Outrage tore across Europe against what was seen as an unprovoked attack on an independent state, but not in Britain. Fully convinced of their noble mission, the British people believed the Boers to be vicious and uncompromising. More soldiers poured into the region into a war they believed would be short and glorious, but as more British bodies piled up – Victoria's own grandson among them – British confidence in their own unconquerable might began to wane.

As British reinforcements continued to flood into the territory the tide slowly began to turn. Rhodes had managed to squeeze a win from the jaws of defeat and the Boer territories became British colonies. The empire had grown, but at a cost. Rhodes' controversial actions during the war – including forming what would come to be known as the first concentration camps – had been a step too far for the British public. What had begun as a noble quest of Christianity had transformed into a greedy and brutal scramble for power. When Rhodes died his merciless version of imperialism was buried with him in the dry African dirt.

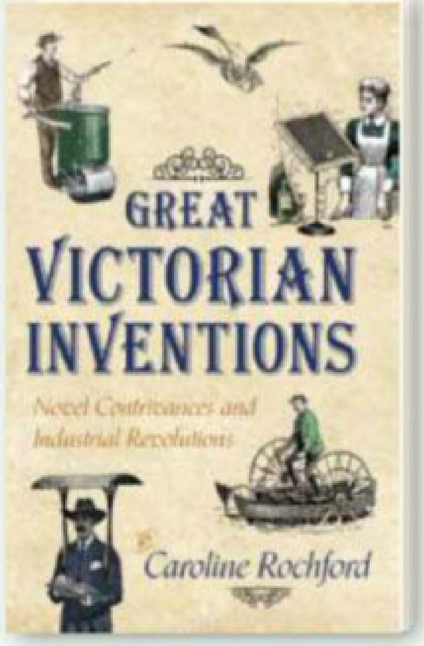
When Victoria passed away she was finally rid of the black mourning clothes she had worn for 40 years and was dressed entirely in white. Spring flowers were scattered around her body and her wedding veil was placed on her head as she prepared to reunite with the dearest love of her life. She was, however, leaving another behind; the Empire she had mothered now stretched across the globe with large parts of maps of the word coloured in the pink that showed British rule. As the sun set on the quiet room in which she lay in Osborne House, it was rising on the bustling spice markets of India, and soon the vast plains of British land in Africa would be bathed in warm golden light. Victoria had died, but the legacy she left behind expanded over the face of the entire planet. The cogs of the British Empire whirred steadily on.



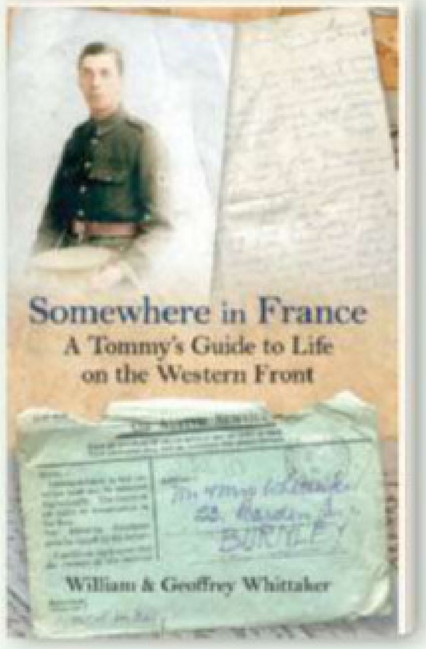
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HISTORY BOOKS

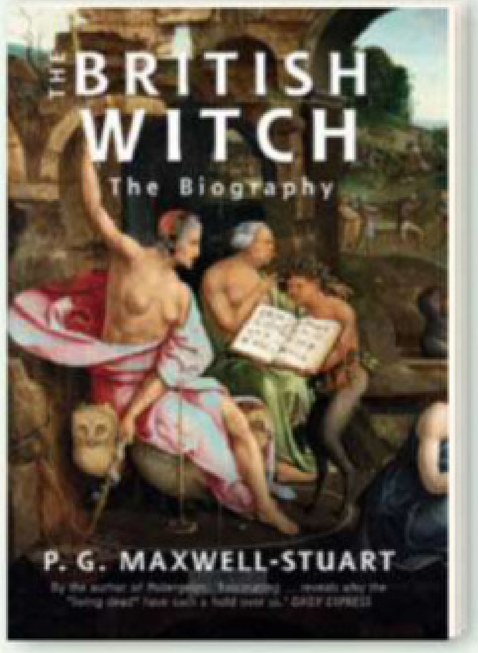
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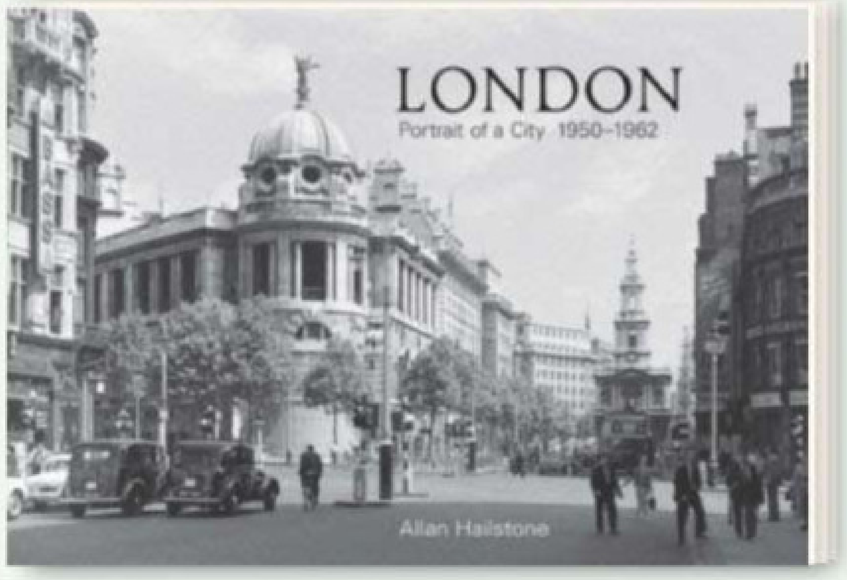
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The Birth of HOLLY

How four penniless Jewish immigrant siblings changed the face of entertainment forever and wrote their own fairy tale

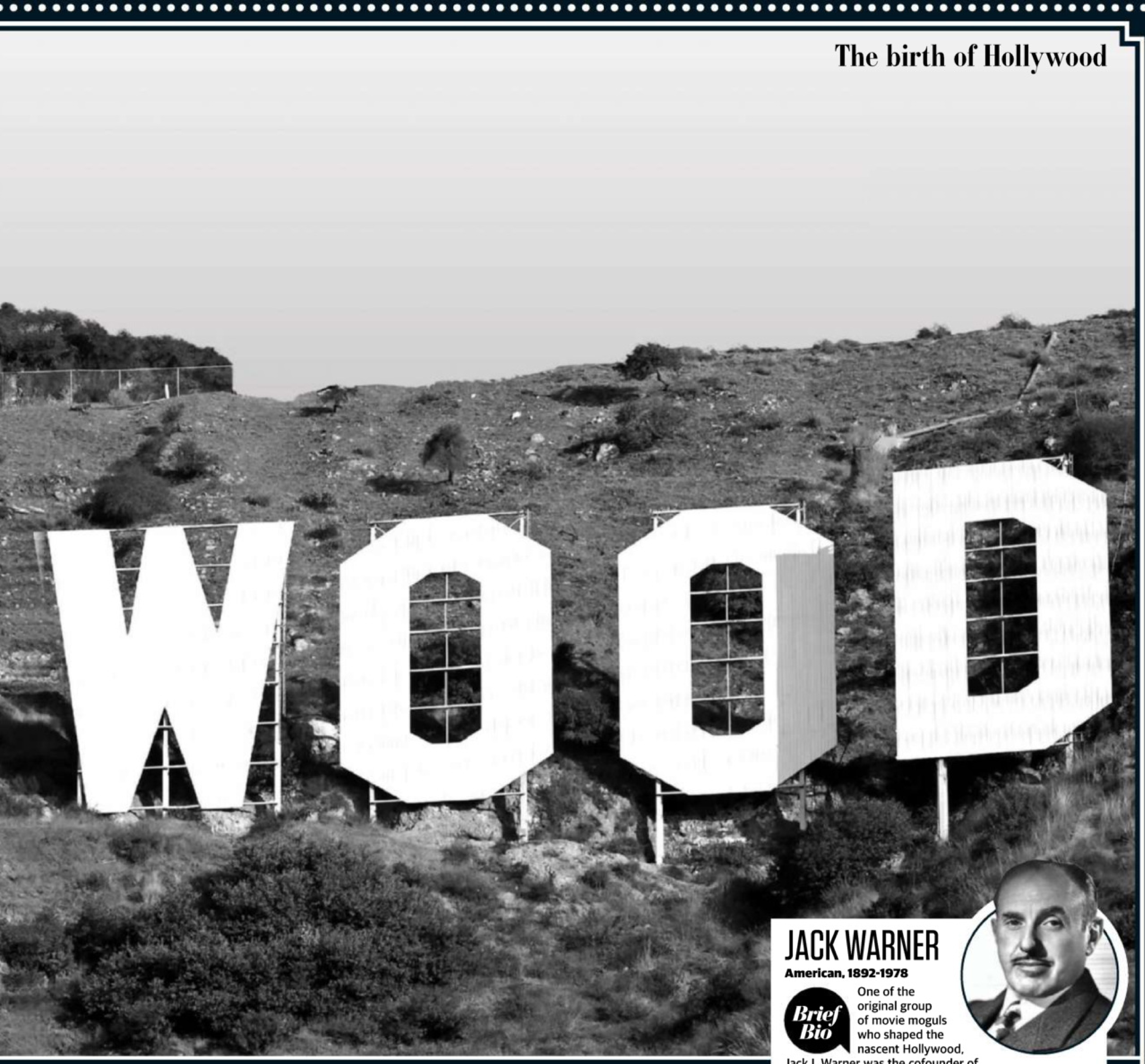
Written by Robin Brown

Jack Warner always wanted to be famous. Actually, make that adored, powerful, rich and famous. Born Jacob Warner in impoverished Canada to Jewish immigrant parents in 1892, he changed his name to something more theatrical: Jack L Warner. As a young man he grew up obsessed with images, hanging around photography studios in the hope of being used for test shots. While his brothers were recognising the potential of early film projectors, investing in a Kinetoscope projector, Jack made money singing in theatres, showing little interest in – or aptitude for – the less glamorous side of show business.

Willed on by his parents and clubbing together with his brothers – Albert, Harry and Sam – Jack toured the Northern states showing old prints of *The Great Train Robbery*, drawing enough cash to buy a series of local theatres and launch their own distribution company, the Duquesne Amusement Company. However, the brothers' ambition didn't stop at a network of provincial theatres. The Warners had their sights set on global domination.

At the turn of the century many others were also heading west to seek a new life. One of these was Harvey Wilcox, who bought 160 acres (64 hectares) of land to the west of Los Angeles in the ironic hope of founding a conservative community. On the train from Kansas, Wilcox and his wife got chatting to a woman who talked of her summer home: Hollywood.

Wilcox's vision of founding a community became a reality and in 1910 Hollywood officially



became a part of Los Angeles. At the same time, a group of actors and directors - drawn to the area by the sunny climate, lack of taxes and freedom from patents issued by Thomas Edison's Motion Picture Patents Company - started shooting motion pictures in what is now the film-making capital of the world. In 1911 Hollywood got its first studio, when the Blondeau Tavern on Sunset Boulevard became the Nestor Film Company - firing the starting pistol on a gold rush that would take place over the next two decades.

A few years later, in 1917, Jack Warner had been dispatched to Los Angeles where he bought the rights to *My Four Years In Germany*, a memoir by the US ambassador to Germany who lived in that country during the First World War. In the face of threats from local theatre owners and impressive offers from distributors, the brothers held fast and premiered the movie themselves, making a small fortune in the process. Riding anti-German sentiment following the war, the film was a smash. Warner Brothers now had a place at the top table of American film producers.

In 1918, the siblings formed Warner Brothers West Coast Studios, later incorporated as the more recognisable Warner Brothers in 1923, and moved to Hollywood. Jack shared production duties with brother Sam while Harry and Albert sold distribution rights and they launched enthusiastically into a series of low-budget farces. However, the films were not a success and the company dangled on the edge of a

JACK WARNER

American, 1892-1978

Brief Bio

One of the original group of movie moguls who shaped the nascent Hollywood, Jack L Warner was the cofounder of Warner Bros Studios. With brothers Harry, Sam and Albert he launched Warner Brothers in 1923 and became the dominant force of the four siblings.

Equally feared and admired, Jack was the typical mogul of Hollywood's Golden Age and was known for his ruthlessness in business. Neither actors nor directors were immune from Jack. He even disposed of his own brothers when they outlived their usefulness, discarded his wife and son when he grew tired of them and was known for casual cruelty to staff.

A notorious philanderer, Jack abandoned his wife and son for another woman in 1935. Following the death of his much-loved brother Sam in 1927, Jack's frosty relationship with Harry and Albert came to a head in 1956 when the former sold the studio's rights to films made before 1950 for a paltry sum and later arranged to buy back Warner's stock that had previously been sold, installing himself as president. The brothers never spoke again and Jack refused to attend Harry's funeral in 1958. In 1969, Jack was seen as the last of a dying breed of studio heads and, after seeing his power gradually slip away, retired. Warner Brothers remains one of Hollywood's most powerful studios to this day.

THE CAMERAMAN

Innovation was key in early film cameras, with devices bulky, hard to move and requiring constant hand cranking. Having to crank a camera while focusing and aiming was difficult, so shooting was often static. Smaller cameras like the Mitchell Standard were introduced in the 1920s but the advent of sound recording posed more problems – namely the issue of sound emanating from the mechanism while recording. Stylistic innovations were slow to appear in early films due to the difficulty of using equipment.

THE DIRECTOR (HAL ROACH)

Directors were rarely used for the ability to craft sophisticated movies in the silent era – a dynamic that continued into the talkie era. Technical knowledge and the ability to work quickly were more highly prized, with many early directors sourced from producers, actors, writers or entrepreneurs. Hal Roach was an exception, with a career lasting for several decades and well into the advent of talkies.

Making Movies

The main players behind the 1919 picture *Bumping into Broadway*

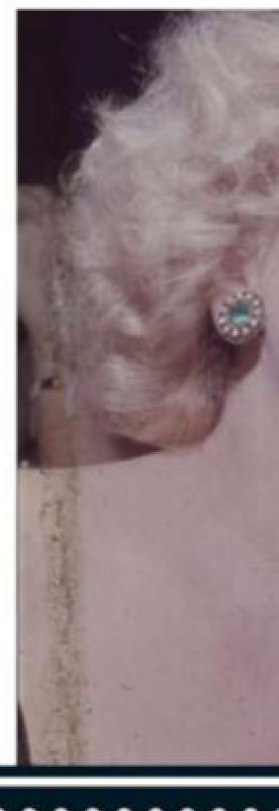
THE STAR (HAROLD LLOYD)

Stars could earn a lot of money, depending on their levels of fame. Silent film stars such as Charlie Chaplin, Harold Lloyd and Buster Keaton could command film deals worth tens of millions of dollars in today's money. Most had a strong understanding of their appeal and how it should be conveyed – enjoying significant creative freedom. That would all gradually change under the studio system of the late-1920s and throughout the 1930s.

Four brothers with a dream: Harry, Sam, Jack and Albert Warner



Al Jolson in *The Jazz Singer*, Warner Bros' famous first 'talkie'





THE SUPPORTING ARTIST (SNUB POLLARD)

Supporting artists were kept in steady employment during the churn-'em-out days of silent films. Skills learned in vaudeville and physical theatre translated well in silent films, though many less polished artists found that their unattractive or heavily-accented voices and inability to learn scripts harmed their prospect when talkies took over. Snub Pollard enjoyed some success in the silent era but found mostly bit-part and extra work from the 1930s onward.

THE LEADING LADY (BEBE DANIELS)

Most films had a female protagonist opposite the leading man. The actresses had often learned their craft in theatres, but were mainly cast for their looks. Romances between prominent actors and actresses were not uncommon – studios were known to encourage or even fabricate relationships to generate publicity. Many careers did not survive the transition to talkies – Bebe Daniels was one who prospered.



Jack Warner in 1973, shortly after he had been ousted from his own studio

financial chasm – moving to a down-at-heel neighbourhood that locals referred to as Poverty Row. Salvation was to come in the most unlikely of forms.

A German Shepherd called Rin Tin Tin proved to be the saviour of Warner Brothers. The trained dog – rescued from a battlefield by a US soldier in the First World War – became the star of a series of silent films of derring-do. The canine appeared in over 27 Hollywood films for Warner Bros, becoming famous around the world. Noting Warner Brothers' flirtation with bankruptcy, Jack called Rin Tin Tin "the mortgage lifter." The German Shepherd was so popular in Hollywood that the Academy of Motion Pictures voted the dog best actor in 1929; sadly the Academy insisted that a human actor take the Oscar. The Rin Tin Tin films were written by Darryl F Zanuck, who later became Jack Warner's executive producer and right-hand man before his dislike of the Warners drove him to what would become 20th Century Fox. Adding names such as director Ernst Lubitsch and star John Barrymore to Warner Brothers' roster boosted sales and also lent the studio some respectability.



"Noting Warner Brothers' flirtation with bankruptcy, Jack called Rin Tin Tin 'the mortgage lifter'"

On the back of these successes – and fearing being shut out by the established studios – the Warners expanded, purchasing theatre companies, building a laboratory to develop film and investing in new hardware. Warners led the way with a vertical model. Rather than being a cog in a larger mechanism, the studio owned it all, from production to distribution to exhibition. Most moguls came from theatre companies so already had distribution tied up (some had virtual monopolies in certain cities) while adding production allowed for the greatest return on investment. The Warners had to beg, steal and borrow to be able to take on the existing studios.

As well as Warner Brothers, four other big studios were to emerge in the 1920s, which would become Hollywood studios recognised today: Paramount was headed by Adolph Zukor and had a reputation for quality silent films; 20th Century Fox was created from a merger in 1935, headed by Warner's old colleague Darryl F Zanuck; MGM had a huge talent roster and produced many of the era's most famous pictures; RKO concentrated their efforts on films noir.

By the 1920s, most US film production occurred in or near Hollywood. By the end of the decade, there were 20 Hollywood studios averaging about 800 film releases in a year – far in excess of modern Hollywood. Films were being manufactured in modular format, aping the success of Henry Ford's production-line process. Swashbucklers, historical or biblical epics and melodramas were most popular, though Warners would blaze a trail with gangster capers and Universal became known for its horror films. Meanwhile, Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Harold Lloyd and Laurel & Hardy were popular for their comedic movies.

The studio system that emerged enforced long-term contracts for stars and rigid control of both them and directors. This system ensured strong profits and a de facto monopoly – by 1929, the 'Big Five' studios produced over 90 per cent of the fiction titles in the States. Studios also distributed their films internationally, hogging the profits at every step of film-making and distribution.

The studios didn't just control the logistics of film-making though. They would snap up promising, good-looking young actors and actresses and construct a new public image for them, often changing their names, putting them through vocal coaching – a



The Birth Of Cinema

By the late-19th century a number of basic methods for showing moving images existed, but none were able to show genuine sequential images filmed by one camera, usually relying on optical illusions or a bank of multiple cameras to replicate moving images. In 1888, Thomas Edison registered a patent for a device that would "do for the eye what the phonograph does for the ear" – record and reproduce objects in motion. Despite his realisation of the Kinetoscope, the invention could only be used by one person at a time. Edison recognised that films projected for large audiences would be a lot more profitable.

The inventor backed another device, the Thomas Armat-designed Vitascope, and publicly demonstrated it on 23 April 1896, at Koster and Bial's Music Hall in New York City. The audience was treated to moving pictures of dancing, a beach, burlesque boxing match and snippets from plays – all were described gushingly as 'wonderfully real and singularly exhilarating.'

It was the first public showing of a motion picture on a screen in the States, a feat recognised today in a plaque erected next to Macy's Department Store in New York.

The event opened up the way for motion pictures to be developed on a mass scale. Ever the businessman, Edison soon dispensed with the Vitascope, patenting his own version, the Projecting Kinetoscope, a few months later.

From silent shows to Hollywood's golden age

-1897-
MOVING PICTURE SHOWS
Thomas Edison creates and markets his own moving-picture camera and projector system, catalysing a race among theatre owners to develop their own systems to show moving pictures in the nickelodeons and theatre halls they own across the US.

-1906-
THE FIRST FILM
The Story Of The Kelly Gang, an Australian film on outlaw Ned Kelly is the world's first full-length feature film. It is first shown in Melbourne, Australia before going on tour, being shown in the UK in 1908. Dialogue is synchronised live during screenings.

-1910-
DESTINATION: HOLLYWOOD
DW Griffith, Mark Pickford and Lionel Barrymore are among a group of actors and directors who begin filming in the village of Hollywood, a suburb of Los Angeles. The results include *In Old California* and several more films.

-1919-
ARTISTS UNITED
Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks Sr form United Artists and take a studio on Santa Monica Boulevard. The actors, along with DW Griffiths, wield enormous power and wealth as some of the biggest stars of their day.

-1920-
BIRTH OF MGM
Metro Pictures Corporation is sold to the Loew's theatre chain – paving the way for the creators of the studio system and contractors of many of the biggest stars of the day, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, in 1924.

-1922-
MORAL CODE
The Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America (MPPDA) is formed in response to a number of early scandals. The body appoints Will H Hays, who will introduce infamous Hays Code.

Studio Players

Adolph Zukor
Paramount Pictures



A Jewish-Hungarian immigrant, Zukor was already a successful businessman by the time he ventured into the film industry, forming a studio that evolved into Paramount Pictures. A polymath, Zukor directed and produced, and as chairman for many years oversaw the consolidation of production, distribution and exhibition within the same company – ensuring Paramount's place as one of the Big Five studios in the early days of Hollywood.

David O Selznick RKO



RKO was ailing when the 29-year-old Selznick, following stints at MGM and Paramount, took over production at the studio, Before long, the studio had signed a young Katharine Hepburn, recruited an impressive roster of behind-the-camera talent and made one of the defining films of Hollywood's Golden Age: *King Kong*. Selznick would move back to MGM before starting his own production company and producing, among others, *Gone With The Wind*.

Louis B Mayer MGM



Another Russian immigrant, Louis B Mayer rose to power through his ownership of a raft of theatres and his own production company, later to become MGM. Under Mayer, the studio dominated the industry and had the top stars in Hollywood – a result of his determination to have 'more stars than the heavens.' Mayer was also one of the founders of Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences – famous for its annual Academy Awards.



A still from 1927's *Tracked By The Police* starring the dog Rin Tin Tin

necessity for many in the emerging talkie era – and even forcing some to undergo plastic surgery. Studios would choose which films their star made, arrange their romantic lives and force them to adhere to strict moral codes. There was significant irony to this. Jack Warner was used to having his pick of the starlets, enjoying the power that came with the success of the Warner Brothers' talkies.

In 1925, buoyed by financial and moral support from United Artists – an independent founded by Douglas Fairbanks Sr, Mark Pickford and Charlie Chaplin – the Warners embarked on a set of acquisitions, appointments and impulsive purchases. Chief among them was a bunch of old machinery from a radio station, because Sam and Jack had an idea. While silent films had their appeal – they were universal due to their lack of a specific language and sound-synchronisation technology was appallingly basic – the two brothers recognised the fantastic possibilities offered by talking pictures.

Chief among the new technologies they pursued was the new Vitaphone film sound process that allowed for synchronisation of sound and moving images, with sounds played on a gramophone. By the mid-1920s it was clear to Jack, despite his initial personal doubts, that the studio that successfully developed sound would reap immense rewards. Other studios were investing heavily in the technology so Warners couldn't afford to be left behind. While the resulting Vitaphone technology was basic, Warner Brothers quickly kitted out their theatres with new kit, cementing them as the leaders of the new media but at the cost of $3 million; it was an enormous gamble.

Championed by Sam Warner as a cheaper alternative to paying for live music in theatres, and in the face of resistance from Harry, the new technology paved the way for 1926's *Don Juan*. Although music and sound effects featured, there was no synchronised speech. Still, the reception to the film was overwhelmingly positive – it had changed the face of the industry. But while the studio enjoyed critical success, the bottom line wasn't nearly so healthy and the cost of producing the film and fitting out theatres with the new Vitaphone projectors almost wiped them out.

With the studio mortgaged up to the hilt, the brothers embarked on another ambitious plan: the next project would feature synchronised dialogue. 1927's *The Jazz Singer* was the first to include speech and was a smash hit, earning Warner Brothers millions of dollars, despite a budget that was considered exorbitant at the time, concerns





"Sam Warner fell into a coma and died at the age of 40, the day before The Jazz Singer's premiere"



-1927-
TALK TALK
The start of Hollywood's Golden Age, with the release of *The Jazz Singer*. Starring Al Jolson, it's the first to have synchronised sound, though only a few minutes of the movie had synchronised vocals, with most of the rest being a silent film.

-1929-
OSCAR TIME
The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) dispenses the first Academy Awards – now known worldwide as Oscars – in May 1929. *The Jazz Singer* is given a special award, commemorating its impact on the industry.

-1930-
HOLLYWOOD ROYALTY
MGM stars Clark Gable and Joan Crawford star together in *Dance, Fools, Dance* – the first of eight features teaming them together. The pair are believed to have had an affair during their golden box-office run in the 1930s.



The Warner Brothers' studio lot in its early years

-1935-
LIVING COLOUR
Becky Sharp, an adaptation of *Vanity Fair*, is Hollywood's first full-length feature film in Technicolor. It paves the way for colour films in the years leading up to WWII, including *Gone With The Wind* and *The Wizard Of Oz*.

-1937-
DISNEY LANDS
Walt Disney premieres *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs*, the first-ever feature-length animated film. With international earnings of $8m it is the highest-grossing sound film of all time for a brief period.

-1939-
KING OF HOLLYWOOD
Gone With The Wind, with a gestation period of several years and a budget of $4m, premieres. The Civic War epic confirms producer David O Selznick and star Clark Gable as leading lights of the era.

THE TALENT

Charlie Chaplin
United Artists



The London-born actor enjoyed a meteoric rise as star performer and reliable, productive director within three years of moving to the US; his tramp character becoming synonymous with the silent era. Chaplin would become one of the most powerful figures in Hollywood before being denied re-entry into the US due to his alleged political views.

Douglas Fairbanks Sr
United Artists



Known for his comedies and swashbucklers, Fairbanks Sr successfully transitioned from the silent era to talkies and cemented his place as Hollywood royalty with his marriage to Mary Pickford and founding of United Artists.

Mary Pickford
Paramount/United Artists



Dubbed 'America's Sweetheart', Mary Pickford was a child actress who became arguably the most popular star of the silent films generation. In 1916, she was the first star to become a millionaire, went on to marry Douglas Fairbanks and founded United Artists studio with her husband and Charlie Chaplin.

The Early Years Of Hollywood By The Numbers

800

The number of movies produced, per year, in Hollywood at the height of its popularity

130,000

Number of residents in Hollywood by 1925 – up from a mere 30,000 in 1919

1923

The erection of the Hollywood sign; it first read 'Hollywoodland' but lost the suffix in 1949

$1.6billion

Inflation-adjusted gross earned by *Gone With The Wind* on release in 1939 – still the highest of any film

400

The number of US movie theatres wired for sound in 1927; by 1930 silent films were almost obsolete

$3.9million

The cost of the silent era's most expensive film, the 1925 version of *Ben-Hur*

2,500

Total number of screen performers in *Gone With The Wind*



Sam Warner with his wife Lina and daughter Lita in 1925

over their star's acting abilities and the quality of the script. Realising Jolson's claim to the audience that "you ain't heard nothin' yet", Warner's stock went stratospheric; at $132 a share it was worth nearly seven times the value prior to *The Jazz Singer*. The gamble had paid off, and handsomely too – the film ensured the studio was now swimming in cash.

The celebrations would be short-lived, though. Jack had noticed that his brother Sam had been struggling with his balance and suffering from nosebleeds – the result of undiagnosed infections caused by abscessed teeth. Following months of ill health, Sam Warner fell into a coma and died at the age of 40, the day before *The Jazz Singer*'s premiere.

While he was devastated by the loss of his closest brother, this was Jack's moment. Without Sam, he became the studio's head of production, inheriting his brother's drive but combining it with a fire and no-nonsense attitude. Unlike Sam, who was generally liked, Jack gained a reputation as an uncaring boss – happy to slash costs and lay off staff for the sake of the bottom line. Under his leadership the studio gambled the astonishing sum of $100 million on the purchase of rival film studio First National. When The Wall Street Crash of 1929 – while not denting the film industry as badly as other industries – occured it meant that, for a while, money was tight.

The studio's response was to ramp up production to a staggering 80 films a year by 1929. With no one to check his behaviour, Jack became notorious as one of the most unpleasant men in Hollywood – in a town filled with unpleasant men no mean achievement. Further acquisitions and expansion would make Warner Bros one of the Big Five studios and Jack Warner one of Hollywood's most powerful players – he was, by this point, a huge success by any reasonable measure. Warner Bros had matched, then bought out and finally beaten rivals into submission, becoming the equal of the four biggest studios, MGM, 20th Century Fox, RKO and Paramount by 1930. It had taken 20 years but the Warner Brothers had done it.

The impact of Warner Bros is hard to overstate. With the release of *The Jazz Singer* the brothers revolutionised the industry – some stars were finished overnight while others saw new opportunities opening up. Silent films were dead within one or two years. Beyond that the structure of Warner Bros – with stars under contract, films made in-house at studios, owned outright and distributed to theatres owned by the studio – combined with pioneering use of new technologies and rampant acquisition of theatre chains and other studios amounted to an economic powerhouse. The four brothers were instrumental in introducing the studio system that Hollywood would become known for – and it was unbeatable.

"A classic rags-to-riches story, worthy of a script from one of Hollywood's greatest studios"

From poor outsiders, immigrants, they had sweated, gambled, bartered and sacrificed to reach the apex of Hollywood. Jack Warner – who had once sung, badly, for pennies – was a powerful studio boss; the Golden Age of Hollywood arriving. For an ambitious boy who had always yearned for power, respect and adulation, it was a classic rags-to-riches story, worthy of a film script from one of Hollywood's greatest studios.

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Hollywood's hidden history
Discover the dark secrets that lurked behind the glittering facade of Tinseltown's golden age

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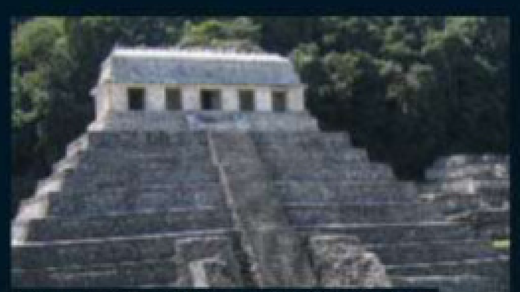
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THE BATTLES AND LEADERS THAT DEFINED

THE GREAT WAR

Exactly 100 years ago, the world was torn in two by a bloody and brutal total war for the first time in its history

Written by **David Crookes**

There was no single cause for the start of the Great War but there was one major outcome: a huge, sustained loss of life over what became one of the bloodiest periods in history. War was waged on an industrial scale, the like of which had never been seen before - and it changed the face of the world forever.

At its heart was a Europe split in two. Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy had formed the Triple Alliance in 1882. By 1907, France, Britain and Russia had joined the Triple Entente. There was envy and desire on both sides; a feeling that each were somehow better than the others and there had, for some time, been an arms race as a show of strength and power.

The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand was the catalyst for war but conflict was largely inevitable. It came as little surprise that the Germans - who had been spoiling for conflict - declared war on Russia on 1 August 1914. Russia was in support of Serbia, a country that had grown in power following the Balkan Wars of 1912 and 1913 but had, in the meantime, become a target for German ally Austria-Hungary.

Such alliances meant each country had vowed to look after each other in the event of war and, because of mass colonisation of other countries, this dragged in many different populations. In total, some 35 nations from China to Brazil and India to South Africa were brought into the war.

It was hoped that such manpower would help to speed up victory but, with more than nine million killed and 29 million injured, it simply led to more bloodshed. The Great War marked four years of battles and stagnant trench warfare. It prompted the introduction of new technology and fresh ways of doling out death. War raged on land, sea and in the air. It was dirty and it was drawn out. And yet, even though many said "never again" and called the Great War "the war to end all wars", the world was dragged back into conflict in 1939, primarily due to unresolved issues after 1918.







A British infantryman on the front line at the Somme in 1916

MILITARY LEADERS

Machines guns. Tanks. Poison gas. Trenches. Death. When it comes to the Great War, some historians find it difficult to talk about great leaders given the sheer loss of life that took place between 1914 and 1918, much of it said to have been due to the stubborn nature, inexperience and numerous mistakes made by those in charge.

Yet this was a war very different to those that had gone before it and the leaders had never experienced conflict on such a scale. There were many amateur soldiers who had either volunteered or been conscripted. Their lack of training and the urgency of battle meant so many were unprepared. The Germans had ambitiously desired to win by Christmas of 1914, but there was no realistic chance of that ever happening. Both sides dug in but it only served to prolong the misery.

The number of deaths created a headache for the leaders in more ways than one. As well as the overwhelming sadness of seeing great men die on the battlefield in a shower of bullets or on the barbed wire that covered no-man's-land, it forced them to fight on, ensuring such deaths would not be in vain. Victory had to be seized even if the growing scale of war was causing great social and logistical pressure - after all, moving so many men around Europe was no easy feat.

The leaders were fighting against a new enemy too. Technology had become a third opponent as well as a handy line of defence. New weapons were proving brutal and they slaughtered opposing troops. Under these circumstances, it was hard for the leaders to understand exactly what they needed to do in the face of such advancements. For just when they thought they had it right, they were surprised by something new.

And yet, after the war these generals and colonels were generally held as heroes. Only later did the leaders start to gain a reputation for being callous and inept. In truth, they did try to learn from their errors. Three guide books were produced for British officers in 1916 and 1917, for example, to help them cope with the steep learning curve of industrial warfare and they were avidly read. For everyone involved, it was a real step into the unknown.



Sir Douglas Haig

RANK: FIELD MARSHAL **NATIONALITY:** BRITISH **1861-1928**



At the outbreak of war in August 1914, the experienced military leader Sir John French was in charge of the newly formed British Expeditionary Force. His reputation was dented following heavy losses at Mons and a subsequent reluctance to cooperate with his French allies. Sir John was eventually pushed into resigning in December 1915 and his role was taken by Oxford graduate Sir Douglas Haig. Sir Douglas had served as a cavalry officer for nine years and he was involved in the Sudan campaign of 1897 and 1898 as well as the Boer War. He was convinced the war could only be won on the Western Front and, while he was justified in this, in 1916, he led his men in the Battle of the Somme and suffered 20,000 deaths. He followed that with more bloodshed of his troops in the Third Battle of Ypres. The terrible cost of his battles meant his reputation was revised within years of the war ending and he was labelled a 'butcher' and a 'donkey' by some, with opinion still split today.

Paul von Hindenburg

RANK: FIELD MARSHAL **NATIONALITY:** GERMAN **1847-1934**



Von Hindenburg had retired from the Prussian Army in 1911 following a honourable 45-year career, which started with the 1866 Austro-Prussian War. However, despite a three-year absence, he was recalled to duty when war broke out in 1914, even though he was 66 years old at the time, and was asked to lead the Eighth Army in Prussia. After defending Germany against Russian attack and inflicting terrible defeats on his foes between 1914 and 1916, he replaced Erich von Falkenhayn as chief of the general staff and, with deputy Erich Ludendorff, he became more influential than Kaiser Wilhelm II. He was able to mobilise the whole of Germany for war and proved to be very popular even though he made mistakes. In putting an emphasis on industrial production rather than agriculture, for instance, he caused a food shortage. He also provoked the US into the war with a desperate policy of unrestricted submarine warfare. Von Hindenburg also desired territorial expansion and had the idea that healthy people would displace "inferior races", a theme later taken up the Nazis.



"The number of deaths created a headache for the leaders in more ways than one"

Ferdinand Foch

RANK: GENERALISSIMO
NATIONALITY: FRENCH
1851-1929



Foch's anger when Metz fell into German hands after the Franco-German War of 1870-71 was the catalyst for him wanting to become a soldier. He worked through the ranks and, at the start of WWI, he was asked to command an army attachment in Lorraine. His troops helped commander-in-chief Joseph Joffre win the First Battle of the Marne. While large numbers of casualties in the Somme prompted this intelligent military man to be moved away from the Western Front, he returned in the closing months of the war. In May 1918, he was made commander of all Allied armies on the Western and Italian fronts and his tenacious tactics paid off when the Germans asked for an armistice.

Nicholas Nikolaevich

RANK: COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
NATIONALITY: RUSSIAN
1856-1929



Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaevich led Tzar Nicholas II's army, hoping to put his training as a soldier to good use. He had served in the Russio-Turkish War of 1877-78 but although he was entrusted with all Russian armies in Europe, his inexperience of commanding troops proved costly. He led the Russians to early victories in the Battle of the Vistula River and the Battle of Łódź but he was more of a figurehead than a strategist and the Tsar dismissed him in 1915, taking control himself. However, terrible military decisions led to heavy losses and by 1918, the Tsar had abdicated and the Russian Revolution was in full flow.

Erich Ludendorff

RANK: GENERAL DER INFANTERIE **NATIONALITY:** PRUSSIAN **1865-1937**



Ludendorff was an experienced military man, having been in the army since the age of 18 and appointed to the German general staff in 1894. He helped revise the Schlieffen Plan, which had been drawn up in 1897. The plan suggested Germany would be faced with war on two fronts with France and Russia and all military planning was based around it. In April 1914, he was promoted to major-general and commanded the 85th Infantry Brigade in Strassburg. When war broke out, he would lead his men to victory in Liège and eventually become deputy to Paul von Hindenburg, making key decisions. He resigned when his insistence on continuing the war in the autumn of 1918 was overruled.

BATTLE OF TANNENBERG

The conflict that almost destroyed the Russian Second Army – 26-30 August 1914

1. Into East Prussia

The 200,000-strong Russian First Army, under General PK Rennenkampf, entered the north of East Prussia. On 20 August 1914 they were met by a section of the 150,000-strong German Eighth Army, headed by General Maximilian von Prittwitz, at Gumbinnen. Russian artillery fire ensured the ensuing battle went against the Germans who retreated.

2. Southern advance

Tsar Nicholas II wanted two Russian armies in East Prussia, so the Second Army was mobilised near Tannenberg in the south-west. Here, only three divisions of the German Eighth Army were in position. General Prittwitz had been replaced by Paul von Hindenburg.

GERMANS 90% ALLIES

Main weapon used: Artillery and intelligence
German casualties: 13,000
Allied casualties: 30,000
Did you know? Russian Generals PK Rennenkampf and Alexander Samsonov disliked one another intensely

3. German retreat

The First Army advanced toward Königsberg, the easternmost large German city, but stopped a few miles in. By this point, thousands of German troops had started to head south to head off the threat of the Russian Second Army.

4. No help

The Second Army, led by General Alexander Samsonov, had hoped the First Army would send troops to support their advance north. Germany intercepted a message which indicated this would not happen which enabled them to formulate a plan to defend Tannenberg.

5. The railways

A corp of the German Eighth Army was sent toward Tannenberg on the Russians' left flank. The Second Army had no idea this was happening. When Samsonov realised the Germans were heading his way, he sent a note detailing how he would deal with it – this was also intercepted.

6. Reinforcements

More divisions of the First Army marched quickly south and took up positions to the right of the Second Army. At the same time, the remaining cavalry in the north of East Prussia spread out so they could better deal with Rennenkampf's army should it move forward again.

7. Taking positions

German General Erich Ludendorff used the intercepted messages to work out the best positions to take in the south. The Russians found it difficult to get their bearings amid the wooded surroundings but they moved forward. The Germans quickly advanced.

8. Encircled Russians

The left flank of German troops isolated the Russians who were encircled in a forest. Some fled but 92,000 were taken prisoner and the rest killed. General Samsonov shot himself. The Russian troops in the north barely moved and, with victory in the south, the Germans mobilised to meet them, eventually driving them out of East Prussia.







WAR IN THE AIR



© Gettyimages

Powerful weapons

It would take five victories to become an ace, but to help pilots of this plane in their missions achieve such a status were four terrifying 9kg (20lb) bombs and two Vickers .303 machine guns.

Great movement

The single-seat Sopwith Camel F1 biplane was introduced in 1917 and built to be nimble. To help achieve unrivalled manoeuvrability, the pilot, engine, guns and fuel tank sat up front, but it made it difficult to fly.

Dangerous to fly

The Sopwith Camel F1 in was prone to spinning. Stalling was also a problem, which meant the aircraft was quite dangerous to fly, sometimes posing almost as many issues for the plane's pilot as it did for the enemy.

Top speed

This British-made Sopwith Camel F1 aircraft is probably the most famous of all of the WWI planes from 1914 to 1918. It had a top speed of 181km/h (112.5mph).

Large beasts

With a wingspan of 8.5m (28ft), a length of 5.71m (18.75ft) and a height of 2.59m (8.5ft), military aircraft were a frightening and imposing sight when in combat. Pilots flying the Sopwith Camel F1 shot down 1,294 enemy aircraft.

VICTORIES OF WWI'S GREATEST ACES

MANFRED VON RICHTHOFEN
GERMANY
80

RENÉ FONCK
FRANCE
75

BILLY BISHOP
CANADA
72

ERNST UDET
GERMANY
62

EDWARD MANNOCK
BRITAIN
61

RAYMOND COLLISHAW
CANADA
60

JAMES MCCUDDEN
BRITAIN
57

ANDREW BEAUCHAMP-PROCTOR
SOUTH AFRICA
54

ERICH LÖWENHARDT
GERMANY
54

DONALD MACLAREN
CANADA
54

FIRST BATTLE OF THE AISNE

The battle that sowed the seeds for the long slog of trench warfare - 13-28 September 1914

1. Post-Marne

The Allies had pushed back the Germans in the First Battle of the Marne between 6 and 12 September 1914. But on 13 September, the German First and Second Armies stopped and took up positions on high ground at the River Aisne along its northern bank.

2. Thicket fence

With the ground rising to some 91-121m (300-400ft), the Germans had the advantage of being able to clearly see the Allies on lower ground. They could also hide behind dense thicket, which covered the steep cliff.

3. An assault

The British Expeditionary Force crossed the Aisne on 13 September and ended up in two locations: Bourg-et-Comin and Venizel. The French Fifth and Sixth Armies joined the offensive.

4. Chemin des Dames

The Fifth Army was successful in capturing the eastern section of Chemin des Dames but it was the only real breakthrough that occurred. By this time, the newly formed German Seventh Army was making its way to the north bank to aid defence.

5. Disaster strikes

The Germans had taken up a strong position at Chivres and from there they could see any advancements made by the British Expeditionary Force. From their high position on steep slopes, the Germans could simply fire at will.

GERMAN **80%** ALLIES

Main weapon used: Machine guns and trenches
German casualties: Unknown
Allied casualties: 14,000
Did you know? The First Battle of Aisne caused the entrenchment of the Western Front, which was 764km (475mi) long

6. Digging in

On 14 September, it was clear the Germans were not about to budge, so Sir John French ordered the BEF to start digging trenches into the French soil using tools gained from farms and villages to provide greater cover for troops.

7. Response

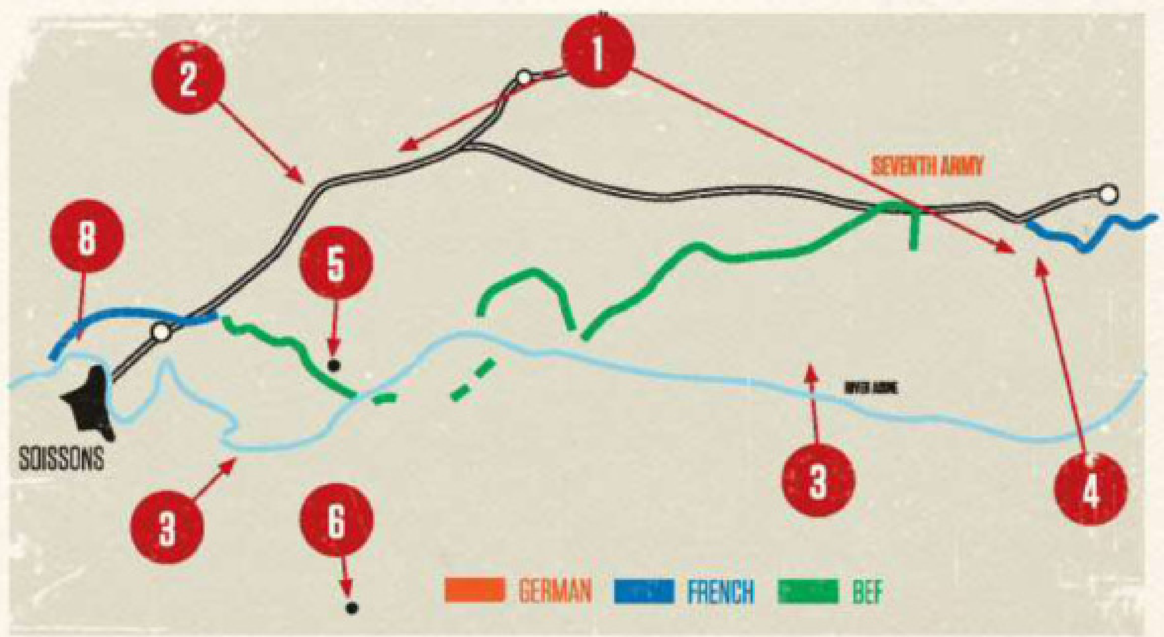
The Germans also dug trenches – this marked the start of the infamous trench warfare that would last for the war in many parts of the Western Front. The Germans adapted their equipment well, though, firing at the Allies with machine guns.

8. Many casualties

As the days went by, the Allies' willingness to fight wore thin and the battle ended on 28 September. It prompted further trenches on both sides to be dug up along the river.



In the British trenches near the Aisne in 1914



FIRST BATTLE OF THE SOMME

One of humanity's bloodiest-ever battles 1 July - 18 November 1916

A German gunner summed up the Battle of the Somme when he wrote after the first day of battle: "They went down in their hundreds. We didn't have to aim, we just fired into them."

This bloody battle was as poorly planned as it was fought. Men aged between 18 and 41 had been sent into battle and thanks to the 1916 Military Service Bill, volunteers made up many more of the troops. Their inexperience meant they had little choice but to trust the judgment of their leaders. In being asked to walk toward opposition trenches, confident that a week of heavy bombardment had crippled German defences, thus paving a safe way forward for them, these amateur soldiers drawn from towns and cities across the UK were viciously and easily cut down.

Many of the men were members of Pals battalions wanting to fight side-by-side with friends, but blunders and an unwillingness to change tactics by those up-high meant they invariably died together instead as the largest British offensive of the war so far became known as a massive military disaster. The Somme threatened to severely damage morale back home as well.

The battle did prove to be a wake-up call, though. As wave after wave of soldiers was killed or wounded, Germans shooting at them with their rifles; machine-gun fire tearing their flesh, it caused a revision of subsequent tactics and redefined how wars were fought. Historians believe the Somme heralded an era of co-operation between the Navy, Royal Flying Corps and the Army and that it also showed the importance of proper, standardised training of troops. Officers were subsequently given greater powers to change tactics rather than having to defer to generals.

Helmet

In 1915, a protective steel helmet called the Brodie helmet was introduced which helped reduce casualties. It was developed by John L Brodie and it was a simple yet heavy shallow bowl with a rim. It was criticised for being too reflective and slippery, concerns a 1916 model addressed.

Service dress

All ranks wore khaki clothing. Mounted men wore spurs and breeches, dismounted men wore trousers but both had a jacket, ankle boots and a peaked cap. The uniform had the wearer's rank sewn on to the upper tunic sleeves and there were patches to prevent wear from the rifle and webbing equipment.

Firepower

British soldiers on the Western Front were given rapid-fire British Lee-Enfield rifles, which had a ten-cartridge magazine.



GERMAN **60%** ALLIES

Main weapon used: Rifle
German casualties: 500,000
Allied casualties: 624,000
Did you know? The Battle of the Somme featured poisonous gas, mines, tanks and machine guns, but heavy rain contributed to the end of fighting

Timeline

Fourth Army

General Douglas Haig instructs General Henry Rawlinson and his Fourth Army to push ahead with an offensive north of the River Somme. The general staff want to relieve pressure on the French Army, which is being hit hard at Verdun. Allies and Germans dig deep, so trenches line the area.
June 1916

Taking the lines

Over 300,000 Allied troops gather against 100,000 Germans. The British take position on a 24km (15mi) front between Serre and Curlu and five French divisions assemble over 13km (8mi) between Curlu and Peronne. Together they stretch across the north and south of the River Somme.
June 1916

Artillery

For a week, the Allies lead an artillery bombardment of the German lines, firing some 1,738,000 shells in the hope of destroying their deep trenches, shelters and wire entanglements. Mines are also placed beneath German trenches at Hawthorn Ridge Redoubt and near Fricourt.
24 June - 1 July 1916

German defence

The vast majority of the German troops are experienced in trench warfare while the Allies are not. The Germans locate their defences on higher ground with five strong points. By mining deep and into chalk, they are protected to a great degree from the Allied artillery onslaught.
June - 1 July 1916

Over the top

Unaware the bombardment has failed to cause any real damage, troops from 11 British divisions are ordered to go 'over-the-top' and walk toward the enemy. The Germans retake their positions in the trenches and unleash machine-gun fire, mercilessly cutting down the soldiers. 20,000 die that day.
1 July 1916



Uniform

Before WWI, each of the German states had their own colour and signifiers on their uniform to show the origin of their soldiers but the German Army simplified this for WWI. Their field grey (feldgrau) uniform helped soldiers to blend in with their background.

Weapon

The Mauser Gewehr 98 was the standard weapon for the German Army. It had been introduced in 1898 and remained in use until 1935. It could fire cartridges from a five-round internal clip-loading magazine, which reduced the loading time, but it could not achieve rapid fire.

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Small gains

The 36th Ulster Division takes the Schaben Redoubt and the French capture thousands of Germans, taking Mametz Wood, Montauban-de-Picardie and Curlu. Rawlinson presses on and an advance in the shelter of darkness places the British just short of High Wood and Delvine Wood.
12-14 July 1916

Tanks

By September, Allied gains have continued to be made but the success is sporadic. To speed things up, tanks are introduced to the battlefield. They help to inflict many casualties on the Germans and they enable the Allies to push forward faster than ever before, gaining ground on a daily basis.
15 September 1916

Isolated battles

Rather than trying to take too much at once, the Allies have learned to concentrate efforts. They still use similar tactics – bombard first, send troops later – but they are now working well. After the success of the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, the Allies win Morval, Lesboeufs and Gueudecourt.
25-28 September 1916

Taking Thiepval

Between 26 and 30 September 1916, the Allies take Thiepval, a village they had wanted to capture on 1 July but had suffered many losses in trying to do so. The taking of Thiepval is helped by Australian troops successfully taking Mouquet Farm to the east of the village.
26-30 September 1916

Bad weather

In November, terrible weather sets in and the troops are having a torrid time. Allies have taken Beaumont Hamel and Beaucourt and, by this time, 11.5km (7mi) of German-occupied land has been retaken. The Germans have suffered 650,000 casualties, the British 420,000 and the French 195,000.
November 1916



FIRST BATTLE OF YPRES

The fight for the Channel ports - 19 October - 22 November 1914

1. German desire

The Germans dearly wanted the war to be over by Christmas 1914 but the Allies were about to engage them in a major battle at the Belgian town of Ypres.

2. Beyond Ypres

At stake were the Channel ports that, if Ypres was to fall into German hands, would effectively hand them control of the sea. For the Germans, it was also a way into Flanders and then France.

3. Antwerp and Ypres

The Germans had captured the city of Antwerp, which is why Belgium's forces and the BEF had retreated to Ypres. But, thanks to the race to the sea, Haig's I Corps had moved from the Aisne and arrived at Ypres.

4. Nieuport

The Germans wanted to capture Calais, Dunkirk and Boulogne. They fought through lines at the Yser River held by the French, overwhelming the Belgians who flooded a 3.2km (2mi)-wide stretch of water.

5. Narrowed focus

The Germans decided to concentrate efforts on a small area and on 31 October pushed on again with a focus on the front between Messines and Gheluvelt.

6. A big push

The Germans took Messines Ridge as well as the towns Wytschaete and Messines in fierce fighting. An assault on the British Expeditionary Forces to the north was repelled, though, with the German forces failing to take much advantage of their temporary breakthrough.

7. Allied attempts

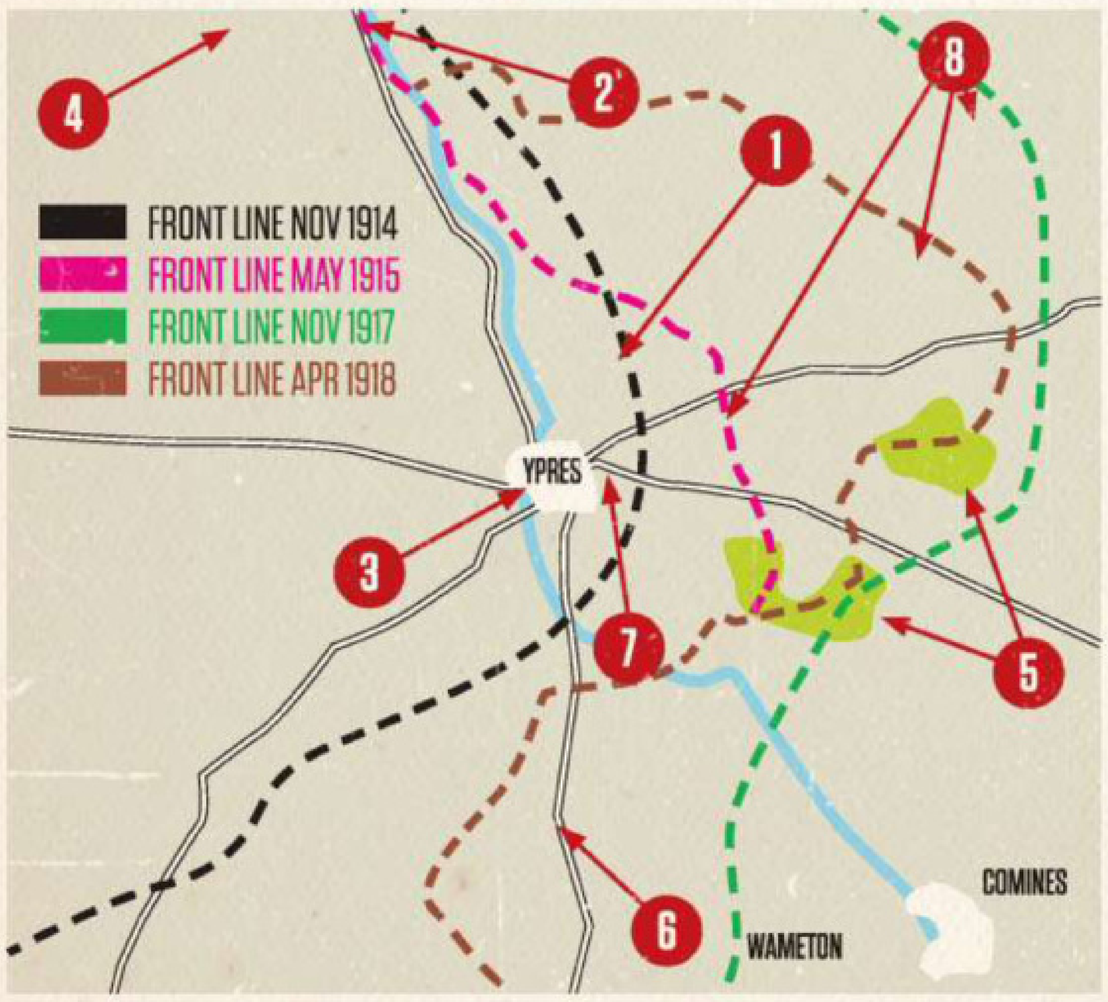
In early November more Allied soldiers were sent to Ypres. The Germans did the same and attacked on 11 November but were repelled by the British.

GERMAN **60%** ALLIES

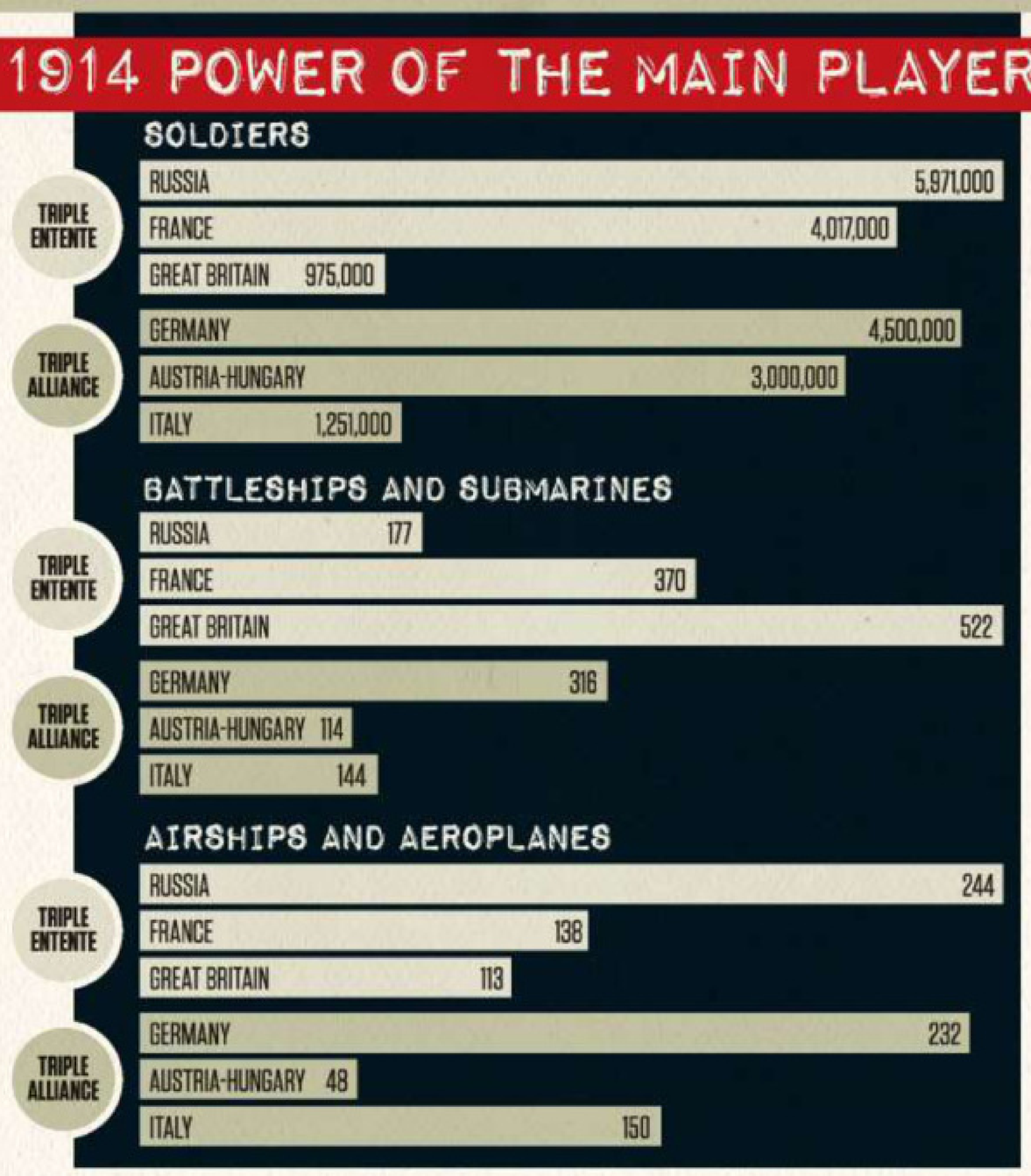
Main weapon used: Field gun
German casualties: 46,765
Allied casualties: 163,000
Did you know? The Battle of Ypres became known as the Kindermord, or Battle of the Innocents – one of those said to be affected by what he saw was Adolf Hitler

8. Big losses

The battle led to huge losses for the Allied forces, forcing eventual conscription. Ypres remained in Allied hands.



1914 POWER OF THE MAIN PLAYERS



ANATOMY OF A MACHINE GUN

Having been introduced to the British Army on 26 November 1912, the Vickers machine gun became a popular weapon in the First World War. It needed around six men to operate, with one of the crew firing the weapon, another feeding it ammunition and the rest assisting. Its effectiveness meant Vickers became the main machine gun used by the British Army during the war.



Heavy-weight

The Vickers machine gun weighed 20kg (44lb) and was 112cm (44in) long. The need to keep spare parts and ammunition handy meant it was hard to move around the battlefield.

Fire-power

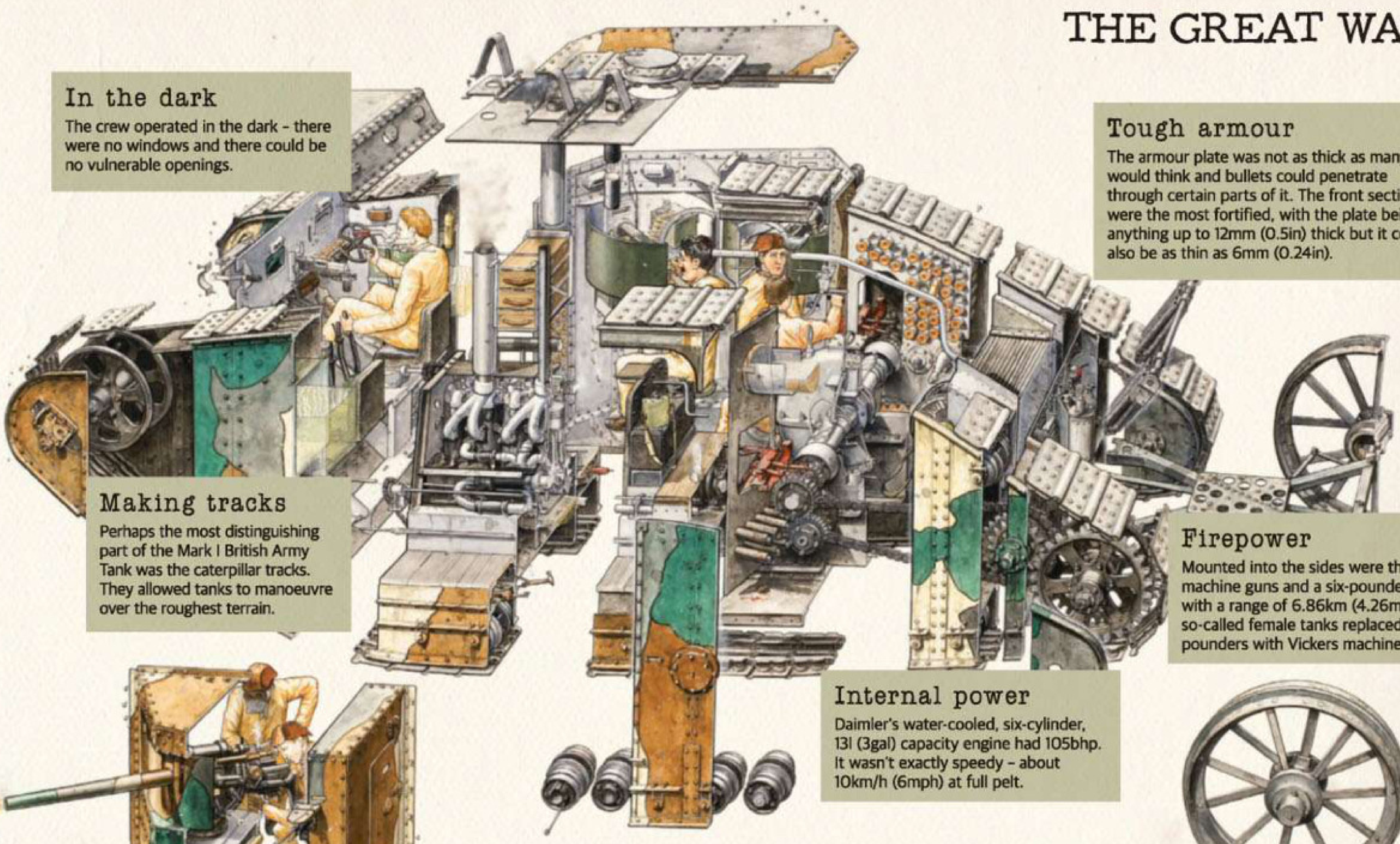
The machine gun used .303 bullets and would spit them out at a rate of 450 a second, which despite being rather imprecise most of the time, would rip through opposition forces with ease.

Water cooler

Since the gun would overheat, it was cooled using water. The main barrel had a jacket around it and would hold 4.5l (1gal) of water. The barrel wouldn't need changing for an hour, making the gun effective.

Cartridge world

The cartridges would be hand loaded into cloth ammunition belts, which themselves weighed 10kg (22lb) each. The machine would also sit on a tripod which would help to stabilise it.



In the dark
The crew operated in the dark - there were no windows and there could be no vulnerable openings.

Tough armour
The armour plate was not as thick as many would think and bullets could penetrate through certain parts of it. The front sections were the most fortified, with the plate being anything up to 12mm (0.5in) thick but it could also be as thin as 6mm (0.24in).

Making tracks
Perhaps the most distinguishing part of the Mark I British Army Tank was the caterpillar tracks. They allowed tanks to manoeuvre over the roughest terrain.

Firepower
Mounted into the sides were three light machine guns and a six-pounder gun with a range of 6.86km (4.26mi). The so-called female tanks replaced the six-pounders with Vickers machine guns.

Internal power
Daimler's water-cooled, six-cylinder, 13l (3gal) capacity engine had 105bhp. It wasn't exactly speedy - about 10km/h (6mph) at full pelt.

The crew
Each tank would need an eight-man crew. The commander and the driver sat up front and could see through flaps. Secondary gearsmen sat at the back, operating the two tracks and the light machine guns. A gunner and loader would operate the six-pounder gun.

INSIDE A WWI TANK

The tank was invented in 1915, with the Royal Navy having been given the task by the Landships Committee - set up by Winston Churchill - of engineering a suitable vehicle for the Great War.

As time went on, it was decided to split tanks into two types. 'Male' tanks had machine guns and naval cannon; 'female' tanks just machine guns. The British Mark I Male was a breakthrough vehicle and by the time it entered service in August 1916, the French had also begun creating tanks, with 3,000 Renault FTs, complete with a 360-degree rotation turret.

Tanks were a way of breaking the stalemate on the Western Front. One of their greatest successes came at the Battle of Amiens when they played a key role in achieving a breakthrough.

SECOND BATTLE OF MARNE

The final major German offensive - 15 July - 6 August 1918

1. Final offensive
The Germans began an offensive push along the Marne River. Their plan was to beat the British Expeditionary Force in an advancement through Flanders with the Marne being a diversionary tactic.

2. First attack
At the section of river to the east of the city of Reims, the French Fourth army, as well as the US 42nd Division which was attached to it, was attacked by German forces.

3. Second attack
To the west of Reims, a second German attack was mounted at the same time as the first. Battling against the French Sixth army were 17 divisions of the German Seventh Army with assistance from the Ninth. This was called the Battle of the Mountain of Reims.

4. Fight back
The French Fourth Army proved too strong for the Germans and the attack to the east of Reims was halted. However, the Germans were more successful to the west and managed to cross the river.

5. False trenches
To the surprise of the Germans west of Reims, the French had dug lightly used trenches. The gunfire had been largely pointless because the real trenches were further back. On 17 July 1918, with help from British and US troops, the Germans were held.

GERMAN **70%** ALLIES

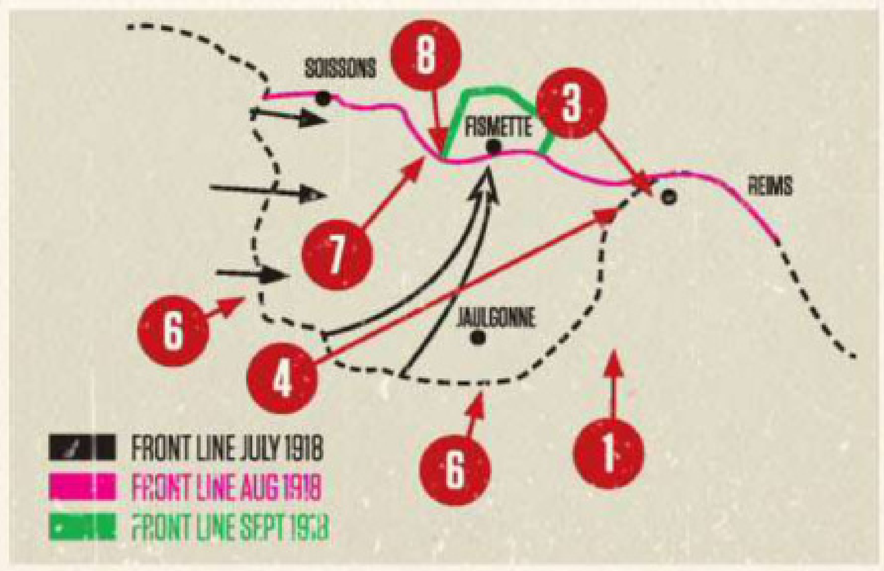
Main weapon used: Tanks
German casualties: 168,000
Allied casualties: 120,000
Did you know? Around 30,000 Americans were killed in the Second Battle of the Marne -the first time the USA had suffered such heavy casualties

6. Counter-attack
On 18 July 1918, the Allied forces hit back. Around 350 Renault FT tanks met the Germans together with 24 French divisions and other Allied troops, pushing the Germans back.

7. Full retreat
On 20 July 1918, with the Germans having lost all ground made that entire year, they retreated. They also scrapped the Flanders assault. It was to be a turning point for the war.

8. Finishing off
Although the Germans dug in, the Allies continued to attack and push the Germans back. By 6 August 1918, around 45km (28mi) had been gained and the Germans were well and truly on the back foot.







The Treaty of Versailles being signed on 28 June 1919

TREATY OF VERSAILLES

What was it?

The Treaty of Versailles was a peace treaty drawn up at the end of WWI. It marked the end of the conflict between Germany and the Allied forces, consisting of 440 articles, which effectively spelt out Germany's punishment.

Who signed it?

It was signed on 28 June 1919 at the Versailles Palace near Paris, by German representatives Hermann Müller and Johannes Bell together with the Allies. The Treaty had been drawn up by delegates from 32 countries but British Prime Minister David Lloyd George, French PM Georges Clemençeau and US President Woodrow Wilson dominated proceedings.

What were the terms?

Germany was told there would be no negotiation. It had to accept demilitarisation of the Rhineland and the handing of Alsace-Lorraine to France. The Saar's rich coalfields also went to France for a period of 15 years. Land in eastern Germany was given to Poland, the German army was restricted to 100,000 men and the navy could only have six battleships. Germany could not have an air force. Germany had to accept responsibility for the war and pay reparations, later set at 132 billion gold marks.

What were the consequences?

It was an unpopular treaty and even David Lloyd George, prime minister of the wartime coalition government, said, rather prophetically: "We shall have to fight another war in 25 years time." Germany was angry and resented not being allowed at the negotiating table. Germany would later deny responsibility for the war and new chancellor Adolf Hitler would refuse to pay the reparations.

WWI FIRSTS

The Great War saw new, more extreme tactics than ever before



A French soldier at the Battle of Verdun with poison gas protection

Poison gas

Trench warfare was demoralising and dangerous, rapidly depleting troop numbers. It also caused a stalemate with neither side making much ground. Poison gas was developed as a mass weapon of death and injury. The French were first off the mark, firing xylyl bromide – more commonly known as tear gas – against the Germans. But the Germans poured many resources into poison-gas development. Chlorine gas killed 5,000 at the Battles of Ypres in Belgium in 1915. Mustard gas was first used in 1917.

Air assaults on cities

The Germans unleashed a terror never before seen on its enemies – blitzing civilians from the air. Several bombs were dropped on Antwerp in Belgium by a German Zeppelin, killing six civilians and 19 January 1915 saw the first raids in Britain, targeting Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn. London suffered 42 casualties on 31 May 1915. Coordinated mass raids followed. Paris was also attacked, but the Allies retaliated by bombing German cities, especially in the Rhineland.



Damage in Paris after a German bombing raid

Tanks

The fearsome Mark I vehicle was unveiled to the British Army on 2 February 1916 and 49 tanks trundling at 6.5km/h (4mph) were first used in September that year in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette. Although they were cumbersome and prone to breaking down, tanks helped smash the trench-war stalemate and allowed for advances to be made. Britain and France had created 6,506 tanks by 1918.

Propaganda art

To boost flagging morale, the British government needed to find a way to garner support among its population. The National War Aims Committee was set up in 1917 with the aim of persuading civilians to continue backing the war effort. Leaflets were produced, negatively portraying the Germans or telling people what they would lose should the Germans win. Among the artists was William Orpen, famous for his piece, *Dead Germans In A Trench*.

Aircraft carriers

HMS Ark Royal was the first ship to have been designed and built as a seaplane carrier. It was introduced in 1914 and it was put to use in 1915 to support the Gallipoli Campaign on the Gallipoli peninsula in the Ottoman Empire, altering naval combat in the process. They allowed for the landing and take-off of aeroplanes while at sea, negating the need for land runways, and they rapidly become signs of superiority. By WWII, aircraft carriers symbolised the superpower status of the United States of America.



Propaganda posters used the power of fear and patriotism to the extreme

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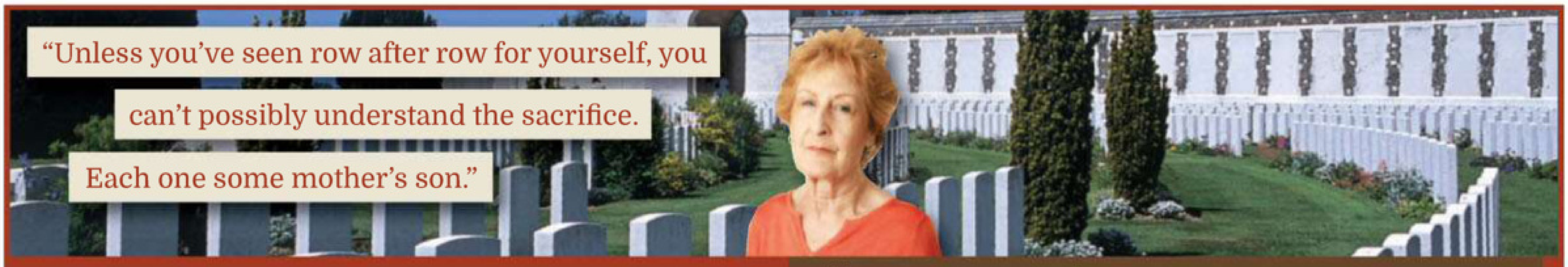
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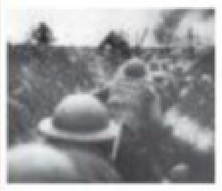
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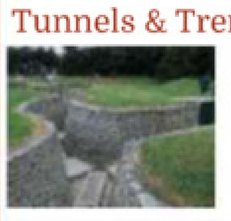
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History's Greatest Love Stories
41 BCE - 31 BCE – Egypt and the Roman Empire
ANTONY & CLEOPATRA
The Love That Led To War

History's Greatest Love Stories

They say love is a battlefield, but for many of these ill-fated couples, their love created actual war and pain and for some it changed the course of history

Fleeing from certain violence, two lovers steal away under cover of darkness and seek refuge across the country. The journey is perilous and they're met with suspicion and prying eyes everywhere they go. They – she a pregnant young girl and he a teacher 20 years her senior – wed in secret in a bid to appease her outraged family, but it does nothing to quell the fury their union has caused. Once discovered, he is robbed of his manhood – castrated – and the pair are doomed to live out the rest of their days under holy orders.

This is the story of Abelard and Heloise, ill-fated lovers from the 11th century whose desire for one another ended in tragedy. But they were not alone in their heartache, for history is littered with torrid, scandalous and life-changing love affairs. From Cleopatra taking her life instead of living without her lover, to King Pedro so overcome with sorrow that he exhumes his beloved's body and sits her corpse on the throne next to his, love through the ages has captivated the world's attention through its ability to start wars, divide societies, power social change and alter the course of history. Where would we be, were it not for love? Nations could be subject to an entirely different religious protocol, or even have a completely different royal family. People fall in love every day around the world, but it's the hearts of a few that have the power to change the world for everyone else.



A pair of star-crossed lovers take their life

Antony & Cleopatra

41 BCE - 31 BCE – Egypt and the Roman Empire

Despite her attractive portrayal on the big screen, Queen Cleopatra of Egypt was – according to some sources – a rather plain-looking woman. But she possessed an easy charm that bewitched the men around her, and she was mistress of Julius Caesar until his assassination in 44 BCE.

Following Caesar's death, three men uneasily joined forces to rule Rome: Gaius Octavian, Caesar's grandnephew; Marcus Lepidus, an army general; and Mark Antony, a general and Roman politician. Antony was keen to forge an alliance with both Cleopatra and Egypt, but what he found instead was a love that doomed himself and the peace of the Roman Empire.

The pair met and soon fell in love. For some time they enjoyed their romance and the political advantage their union gave them: Cleopatra had money, Antony power. Antony was able to fend off any invasion of Egypt by the Romans, while Cleopatra was able to finance Antony's armies. But the trio ruling Rome fought constantly among themselves and in a bid to keep the peace Antony had previously married Octavian's sister. Antony's wife and disgruntled brother-in-law were clearly less than enamoured by his relationship with Cleopatra, and Octavian set about convincing the Roman senate that Cleopatra was a greedy temptress who had turned Antony into a useless puppet. After Antony declared his intentions to divorce Octavian's sister and marry Egypt's queen, Octavian declared war on the two lovers.

Their story ended tragically in 31 BCE at the Battle of Actium in western Greece. Octavian's naval fleet defeated the joint forces of Antony and Cleopatra and the pair fled to Egypt. There, in a final struggle against Octavian, Antony was given a false report that Cleopatra had committed suicide. Overcome with grief, the Roman military general thrust a sword into his abdomen. Cleopatra was actually still alive, but had been imprisoned. Upon hearing of Antony's death, legend has it she coaxed a poisonous snake into her cell and charmed it into delivering a fatal strike on her chest, although the precise details of her death are lost to the ages.

Was their love eternal?

The story of Antony and Cleopatra has inspired countless films, books and plays (indeed, William Shakespeare saw fit to dedicate an entire work to their memory). The pair died fighting for their love and are buried next to each other in a tomb in Egypt, where they will lie together for eternity.

An ill-fated love doomed by destiny

Napoleon & Josephine

1795-1810 - France

Passionate and tempestuous or lacklustre and apathetic? The circumstances of Napoleon and Josephine's romance have been widely debated. On one hand, it's alleged that the young, penniless general had fallen head over heels in love with the older, wiser and - given the number of affairs she'd had since her first husband's death - more experienced Josephine, and that she had reciprocated in kind. But some argue that Josephine, widowed mother of two and 32 years old at the time of their meeting, wasn't particularly keen on a union, but felt that as her options were increasingly diminishing she had no choice but to accept Napoleon's proposal. Perhaps both are true.

On the day of their wedding Josephine (a name bestowed on her by Napoleon - her real name was Rose) arrived wearing his famous gift to her: an enamel medallion engraved 'To destiny.' How ominous those words turned out to be. Napoleon arrived several hours late to the ceremony, claiming he'd become so engrossed in his forthcoming campaign that he'd lost track of time. Then, rumour has it, as the pair got intimate on their wedding night, Josephine's dog - which she insisted sleep in their room - intervened and took a bite out of his shin. Napoleon left for Italy two days later.

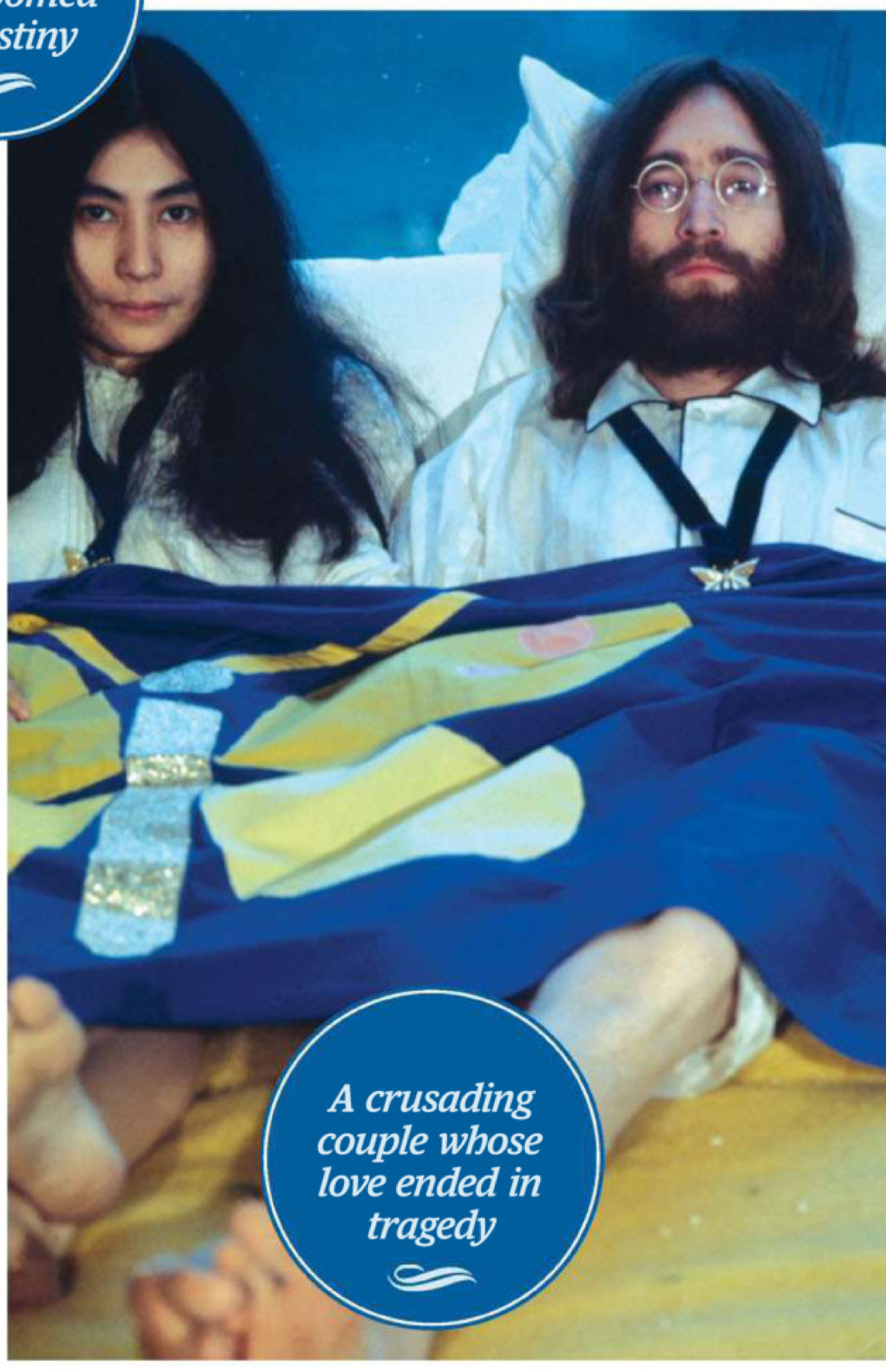
While he was away, Napoleon bombarded Josephine with love letters and requests that she join him. She replied only infrequently, eventually taking up with a handsome Hussar lieutenant. News of the affair reached Napoleon and the dynamic of their relationship changed forever - not least because a personal letter Napoleon wrote to his brother about the matter was intercepted by the British and embarrassingly published in the press. His letters to her became formal, and he pursued his own adulterous adventures - the most notable being an affair with Pauline Fourès, who later became known as 'Napoleon's Cleopatra.' "Power is my mistress", Napoleon claimed.

The couple stayed together in the hopes that an heir could be produced for Napoleon, who was by now the emperor of France. But Josephine never fell pregnant and in November 1809 Napoleon asked for a divorce. The love affair that had once consumed this great military tactician was over.

Was their love eternal?

Despite infidelities and eventual divorce, Napoleon and Josephine maintained a warm respect and love for one another. Despite remarrying, Josephine was allowed to keep the grand title of empress of the French, and on his deathbed Napoleon said: "France, the army, the head of the army, Josephine."





A crusading couple whose love ended in tragedy

John Lennon & Yoko Ono

1968-1980 - London and New York

Despite telling his wife Cynthia that Yoko Ono was only contacting him for money for her "avant-garde bullshit", Lennon filed for divorce in 1968, marrying Ono four months later and staging their famous *Bed-in For Peace* on their honeymoon.

The couple were renowned for their activism, publicly protesting the Vietnam War and preaching a message of love and tolerance. Their inseparability caused strong tension within the Beatles (after Ono was hurt in a car accident Lennon arranged for a king-sized bed to be brought to the studio where the band was recording *Abbey Road*), with many fans blaming Ono for their break-up.

Was their love eternal?

It might have been, were it not for Lennon's assassination in 1980. After separating in 1973, the pair reunited again the following year, with Ono telling Lennon's then-girlfriend May Pang she'd allow Lennon to keep her as a mistress!

Henry VIII & Anne Boleyn

1533-1536 - Tudor England

One of history's greatest philanderers, Henry VIII's love of women has been widely documented. Henry had married Catherine of Aragon, his deceased brother's widow, in 1509. Despite six pregnancies, the marriage only produced one healthy child - Mary (who would later become queen) - and Henry began to grow dissatisfied with the union. After tiring of his affair with Catherine's lady-in-waiting, Mary Boleyn, Henry turned his attention to her sister, Anne. She was well-liked at court, playful and childlike, which appealed to the king.

She resisted his attentions at first, but couldn't refuse when he proposed marriage. After obtaining a divorce from Catherine - a monumental task that changed religion in England from Catholicism to Protestantism - Henry wed Anne, making her his queen.

It didn't take long for Henry's affections to wear thin. He found Anne's wit tiresome, she dared to argue with him in public and she resented his other mistresses. Most damningly, she bore him a daughter instead of a much-wanted son, and then suffered a series of miscarriages. It wasn't long before Henry moved her successor - Jane Seymour - into the royal apartments, marking the beginning of the end for Anne, who, after being accused of adultery, incest and witchcraft, ultimately lost her life in the Tower of London.

Was their love eternal?

Some historians claim that of all of his wives, Anne was the only one Henry truly fell in love with. However, he married Jane Seymour just one week after her death, and a succession of subsequent wives (and beheadings) followed.



One man's desires changed England forever

Love can be murder

Bonnie and Clyde

1930-1934 - US Midwest and South



It's no surprise the story of Bonnie and Clyde was not considered as romantic back then as it is today; during their travels around the US South and Midwest they were involved in more than a hundred felonies, including armed robbery and murder. It's said the pair were instantly smitten with each other when they met, and many believe Bonnie assisted Clyde in his wrongdoings because she was so deeply in love. Police in Louisiana ambushed them in 1934, where both were killed.

Was their love eternal?

The couple had always said they wanted to be buried together when they died but Bonnie's family wouldn't allow it. Nonetheless, theirs is a love story that has fascinated people throughout history and lives on in legend.



A scandalous love affair that cost a scholar his manhood

Abelard & Heloise

12th century - France

Heloise was a gifted student whose ambition in life was to understand the human existence, so her uncle Fulbert, the canon of Notre Dame, enlisted the help of Peter Abelard, a renowned philosopher some 20 years her senior.

Despite the age difference, the pair fell in love and soon Heloise was pregnant. The couple, fearing an imminent scandal, fled to Brittany and got married in an attempt to appease Heloise's furious uncle. But it wasn't enough. While Heloise sought refuge in a convent, Fulbert ordered his men to attack Abelard in one of the most humiliating ways possible - castration. The pair escaped with their lives by taking holy orders as a nun and a monk.

Was their love eternal?

The pair were separated for years, but wrote to each other occasionally. Seven letters exist today, featuring remorse, sadness, pain and anger. Abelard told Heloise he never really loved her, while Heloise told Abelard she never wanted to be his wife. While their tragic story has echoed through the ages, their love for each other did not.

"She was his closest advisor and confidante, as well as his wife"

A love that built the Jewel of India

Shah Jahan & Mumtaz Mahal

1612-1631 - Mughal Empire

The love between Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal was responsible for the the Taj Mahal, one of the world's most famous landmarks.

On acceding to the Peacock Throne in 1627, Prince Khurrum became Shah Jahan or 'King of the World', taking two wives as a matter of course, but it was Arjuman Banu Begum with whom he fell head over heels in love, giving her the name Mumtaz Mahal - 'Jewel of the Palace.' She was his closest advisor and confidante, as well as a wife and baby-making machine; during their marriage the pair had 14 children.

During the 14th child's birth, Mumtaz died. Shah Jahan was so overcome with grief that he ordered his kingdom into a two-year period of mourning and went himself into a private purdah of melancholy for a year. After returning to public life, Shah Jahan set about honouring his late wife by building the temple at Taj Mahal, one of the most recognisable buildings in the world today and widely regarded as the finest example of Mughal architecture.

Was their love eternal?

It took 23 years to build the Taj Mahal, where Mumtaz and Shah Jahan were eventually buried together - a beautiful mausoleum that every day reminds the world of their love.



A love that changed the course of civil rights



Waties Waring & Elizabeth Avery Waring

1943-1968 - South Carolina

The story of Waties and Elizabeth isn't simply a great romance, but a romance that fought persecution and hatred and significantly altered the course of US civil rights. During the early-1940s, federal judge Julius Waties Waring was enjoying all the privileges his legal career and place in white Charlestonian society afforded - along with his wife of 32 years. His previously pro-segregation stance was waning, but it was only after meeting Elizabeth and falling for her that his politics veered dramatically leftward.

Waties divorced his wife (Elizabeth divorced her husband) and the pair married, causing controversy and uproar within the Charleston community. Waties then made some bold legal changes, the most notable being the abolition of segregated juror seating in his courtroom, and appointing a black man, John Fleming, as his chief bailiff.

Many attributed this change in attitude to Elizabeth, who urged her husband to look at issues of race with compassion. But the pair paid the price for this, shunned by white society and receiving torrents of abuse and intimidation from locals who didn't agree with the couple's racial views. Throughout it all, Elizabeth, nicknamed 'The Witch of Meeting Street', stood by her husband, telling him "I'm with you, start to finish."

When Waties died in 1968, hundreds of African Americans attended his funeral in homage to his achievements on behalf of racial equality. Elizabeth died just nine months later, but only nine people attended her service.

Was their love eternal?

Waties and Elizabeth are buried in the same cemetery, but not in the Waring family plot, suggesting the couple's ideology had distanced them from even their own kin, but their ideology helped shape the future of civil rights.

Ines de Castro & King Pedro

1340-1355 - Portugal

Prince Pedro, heir to the Portuguese throne, was married to Lady Constansa Manuel of Castela as a matter of politics, and the love he should have had for his wife was instead directed toward her lady-in-waiting, Ines de Castro. The pair conducted a not so secret relationship, with Pedro's father the king exiling Ines in a bid to quell their love.

Distance was no match for their bond, though, and after Lady Constansa died in childbirth, Pedro brought Ines back and married her, intending to make her his queen. Outraged, the king ordered the murder of Ines, who was viciously beheaded in front of her own children. On hearing the news of his wife's brutal death, Pedro declared war against his father, launching Portugal into a short-lived but bloody civil war.

Was their love eternal?

After the king's death, Pedro avenged Ines by hunting down those involved in her murder and ripping their hearts out with his own hands. He then exhumed her body, placing it on the throne next to his and naming her (two-year-old corpse) his queen.



A love that was crowned after death



Edward & Wallis

1931-1977 - England

A love that changed the course of British history

Many a compromise is made on the path to love, but how many people could say they'd pass up the opportunity to be king in order to appease their hearts? That's what Prince Edward of Wales, heir to the British throne did. After years of womanising and reckless behaviour, which caused great concern to his father George V and Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, Edward met socialite Wallis Simpson in 1931. Both moved in the same circles and Edward became enamoured by her wit and charm. However, Wallis could never be considered a suitable match for Edward, as she was American and married, and already once previously divorced.

Pressure mounted when George V died, and preparations were made for Edward's coronation. It never happened. Instead, Edward chose the woman he loved over the country he loved, and he abdicated the throne, famously telling Britain during a radio broadcast: "I have found it impossible to carry the heavy burden of responsibility and to discharge my duties as king as I would wish to do without the help and support of the woman I love."

With a reign of just of 326 days, Edward became one of the shortest-reigning monarchs in British and Commonwealth history. He was succeeded by his younger brother, Albert (regal name George VI), the subject of the film *The King's Speech*.

Was their love eternal?

Their love persevered despite the pressure it faced. Edward was stripped of his title of Duke of Windsor and Wallis divorced her husband in 1937. The pair married and lived out the rest of their days together contentedly in France.

ATTACK ON ROME

In the 2nd century BCE, Rome was a powerful international force, but one man almost brought an empire to its knees. This is his story...

Written by Owen Williams

Hannibal Barca

Carthage, 247-182 BCE

Brief Bio

Hannibal Barca was on the battlefield by the age of 9 and a general by 26. Waging war on Rome, he marched troops from Spain to Italy across the Alps, and won many battles until finally meeting his match at Zama in 202 BCE. He committed suicide rather than face Roman capture in 182 BCE.

History is full of epic journeys, but few can match the one undertaken by Hannibal in 218 BCE. Starting in Spain, he would march over 80,000 troops and 30 war elephants through the Pyrenees and Gaul and across the Alps into Italy. At the outset of the venture it must have seemed a daunting task, but Hannibal was not a man lacking in confidence. The Carthaginian general, born into a famous military family, was taking resistance against the Roman Empire to a new level. While giving some thought to the defence of his own people Hannibal decided to go on the attack, and would achieve such staggering success that he - almost unbelievably - threatened to completely destroy the mighty power of the Romans. Cool and calculating, his feats would earn him fame as one of the greatest military strategists of all time. It would take an equally extraordinary military mind among the Romans to finally defeat him: Publius Cornelius Scipio Africanus.

At the time of Hannibal's birth in 247 BCE, Carthage was the greatest of the Mediterranean empires. The Carthaginians were a Phoenician people (from which the word 'Punic' is derived), and the Phoenicians had been settling North Africa and Southern Spain since the 10th and 11th centuries BCE. Carthage was established in the 9th century BCE, but by 241 BCE, after 23 years of the First Punic War, it had suffered losses to the might of Rome, and been driven out of Western Sicily, an area previously under Carthaginian control.

Leading the Carthaginians against Rome was Hannibal's father Hamilcar, given the surname 'Barca', which means 'lightning flash.' Hannibal would live up to the name, compared by the Roman Florus as "a thunderbolt which burst its way through the midst of the Alps and swooped down upon Italy from those snows of fabulous heights like a missile hurled from the skies!" Furious his senate hadn't allowed him to continue fighting, Hamilcar spent the next few years re-establishing Carthage's military and economic footing, but our



Hannibal swears to forever oppose the Romans

Why was Hannibal fighting?

Hannibal's wars were about resistance and rebellion against the might of the Romans. He came from Carthage in northern Tunisia, which was itself a powerful force, established in the 9th century BCE and one of the greatest Mediterranean empires at the time Hannibal was born in 247 BCE. Carthage had suffered in the First Punic War, however, driven out of Western Sicily, which they had previously held but had now lost to the Romans. Carthage did not exactly lose the First Punic War, but didn't win it either, and Hannibal's father Hamilcar Barca was furious that the Carthaginian senate had not allowed him to continue fighting. The Second Punic War, under Hannibal's own command, was very much unfinished Barca business. He was happy to conquer, but he would not be conquered.

Hannibal's epic journey



04 The Pyrenees
May 218 BCE
Hannibal set out from Cartagana with around 80,000 troops and 30 elephants and over the next two months confronted and defeated the tribes of the Illergetes, the Bargusii, the Aeronosii and the Andosini. He defeated and left garrisons at numerous settlements along the way, including Tarraco, Barcino, Gerunda, Emporiae and Illiberis.

03 Rest in Carthage
Early-218 BCE
Hannibal spent the following winter back in New Carthage, allowing his troops some downtime and hoping to elevate morale for the arduous journey ahead. He left his brother Hasdrubal in charge back in Carthaginian Iberia, to maintain defence against the Romans while Hannibal was on the march.

02 Siege of Saguntum
219-218 BCE
Saguntum had put itself under the protection of Rome some years before. Rome warned Hannibal away from Saguntum, which Hannibal took as a challenge. The siege lasted eight months, by the end of which Saguntum was in ruins and Hannibal had sold its inhabitants as slaves.

01 Out from Carthage
Spring 219 BCE
Hannibal could only reach Italy via a land march, since the Romans had massively improved their naval capacity in recent years. The long journey also provided the opportunity to gather provisions along the way, and to battle-harden his army against minor cities and tribes en route.

first glimpse of Hannibal is during a Barca venture to plunder Spanish silver mines in 238 BCE.

Hannibal pleaded with his father to be allowed to go along. Hamilcar agreed, after making his son swear an oath that he would never be a friend to the Romans; and so Hannibal was on the battlefield by the time he was nine years old. He scarcely ever left it. He ate, spoke and drank with military men and watched his father manage his troops, gaining invaluable military experience from an early age. He rose quickly through the ranks and by 224 BCE, aged just 23, was in charge of the cavalry. Three years later, following Hamilcar's death in battle, he was the general of the entire army, supported by troops who knew, trusted and respected him.

The Second Punic War, beginning in 218 BCE, saw Hannibal continuing his father's unfinished business, expanding Punic power throughout Spain. The major outbreak of hostilities with Rome focused around the Spanish city of Saguntum, which was under the protection of Rome. The city of Saguntum was worried about hostile local tribes, as well as internal factions. Their link with the great Empire seemed of little consequence though as Rome paid them little attention. This changed when Hannibal began moving his Carthaginian bases in Spain outward, expanding to the west and northeast. The enraged Romans visited Hannibal to warn him away from Saguntum. Hannibal took this as a challenge and laid the city to a lengthy siege, to which the Romans reacted remarkably slowly. By the time they had protested to the Carthaginian senate and sent aid to Saguntum, Hannibal had taken it. The city was his.

> "Florus compared Hannibal to 'a thunderbolt which burst its way through the midst of the Alps'"

From Saguntum, the bold Carthaginian leader saw his objective clearly. The power of Rome, particularly through its strength in numbers, was derived from the people of Italy. In order to strangle that source, Hannibal had to promise Italy freedom from Rome's oppression. To do this, he would actually need to invade Italy, since rumours of distant Punic victories in Spain and North Africa would not be enough to sway Italian opinion to his cause. The problem was that Hannibal and his forces could not reach Italy by sea, due to Rome's naval dominance. A land march was his only feasible option, collecting provisions along the way, plundering where possible and bloodying his soldiers against minor cities and tribes to make sure they were battle hardened and at full fighting efficiency. It would be a punishing journey before they even reached the Alps, which they would cross at the worst time of year. But it would confound the Romans, who were sailing to attack Hannibal in Spain, oblivious that he was, at the same moment, marching in the opposite direction, looking to strike the great empire at its very heart.

05 The Rhone

September 218 BCE

After the fierce opposition he had faced through the Pyrenees, the march to the Rhone was largely uneventful. Opposition was met with diplomacy rather than aggression, until the fierce Battle of the Rhone Crossing, against the Gaulish tribe of the Volcae.

06 The Alps

October 218 BCE

On finally getting across the Rhone, Hannibal immediately started his ascent of the Alps, risking the onset of winter rather than giving the Romans the opportunity to organise in time for spring. Only 20,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry made it across to the other side.

07 Into Italy

November 218 BCE

Hannibal arrived unexpected right on Rome's doorstep: the unprepared Romans had been expecting to fight Hannibal in Iberia. Despite his depleted numbers, Hannibal decisively announced his arrival by winning immediate victories in battles at the Po Valley, Ticinus, Lombardy and the River Trebbia.

SCIPIO

Rome, 236-183 BCE

Brief Bio

Publius Scipio the Younger was a Roman general and statesman, who gained the nickname 'Africanus' after his defeat of Hannibal at the Battle of Zama. Aged just 17, he distinguished himself at the Battle of Ticinus and volunteered to lead the Roman army in Spain and North Africa when he was 24. After his victory in the Second Punic War, he returned to Rome in triumph, but his political career was later marred by accusations of corruption.



Hannibal and his troops crossing the Alps

In the spring of 218 BCE, following a winter of rest after Saguntum, Hannibal set out with his 80,000 men, confronting several tribes and garrisoning more cities along the route. These brief skirmishes aside, the journey was largely uneventful until the Carthaginians reached the banks of the Rhone and faced fierce opposition from the pro-Roman Volcae, a Gaulish tribe.

Hannibal's first major battle outside his homelands was early evidence of his genius for planning. Expecting exactly the resistance he faced, Hannibal had sent a detachment upriver to cross at a different point and circle around behind the Volcae. As Hannibal led his principal force across the river, the Volcae attacked as predicted to prevent his crossing, but were caught unawares when Hannibal's secret detachment attacked from their rear. The preparation had been intricate and the victory was so decisive that the battle only lasted mere minutes.

A single day after the Battle of the Rhone, Hannibal began heading for the Alps, realising that his army needed to cross them quickly before the disastrous onset of winter. Fighting their way past the Gaulish Allobroges tribe, the Carthaginians began their ascent, making slow progress and continuing to bat away barbarian counter-actions at regular intervals. By the end of October 218 BCE, Hannibal's numbers were reduced to 20,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry, and many of his elephants had perished. Deteriorating weather, the length of the campaign and the constant fighting had taken their toll on the Carthaginian force. Morale was low as they began their descent into Italy and sunk further when their path was blocked by a landslide. After a detour - costly in terms of time - Hannibal was forced to backtrack and simply repair the path until it was wide enough for his ailing remaining elephants to pass through.

The depleted and exhausted Carthaginians finally emerged into Italy

Fearsome beasts of war



01 Species
Carthage would have used the now-extinct African forest elephant, native to Morocco, Algeria and the edge of the Sahara. Much smaller than the more common Indian and African elephants, the African bush elephant still stood 2.5m (8ft) in height at the shoulder.

02 First rider
The height, mass and thick hide of an elephant provided good protection for a rider, and some generals commanded from elephants for an improved view of the battlefield.

03 Second rider / archer
Elephants also made a good platform for archers. The animals' height and relative stability meant that more targets could be seen and shot at from the middle of the battlefield, rather than from high ground and the back of the ranks.

04 A fatal fail-safe
Elephants could be unpredictable and given to panic, so many troops armed their elephant riders with a hammer and a sharp chisel blade, to cut through the elephant's spinal cord, immediately killing it, if it went berserk.

05 Tower
The tower commonly seen on the back of war elephants in pictures is called a howdah, and provides protection for the rider (it could also be a symbol of wealth). These were more common to larger Indian war elephants, however, and there is little evidence that Carthage used them.

06 Armour
Most cultures that used war elephants developed armour to protect their legs and bodies, while leaving their trunks free for attacking. Some even trained them to swing heavy iron chains and balls with their trunks.

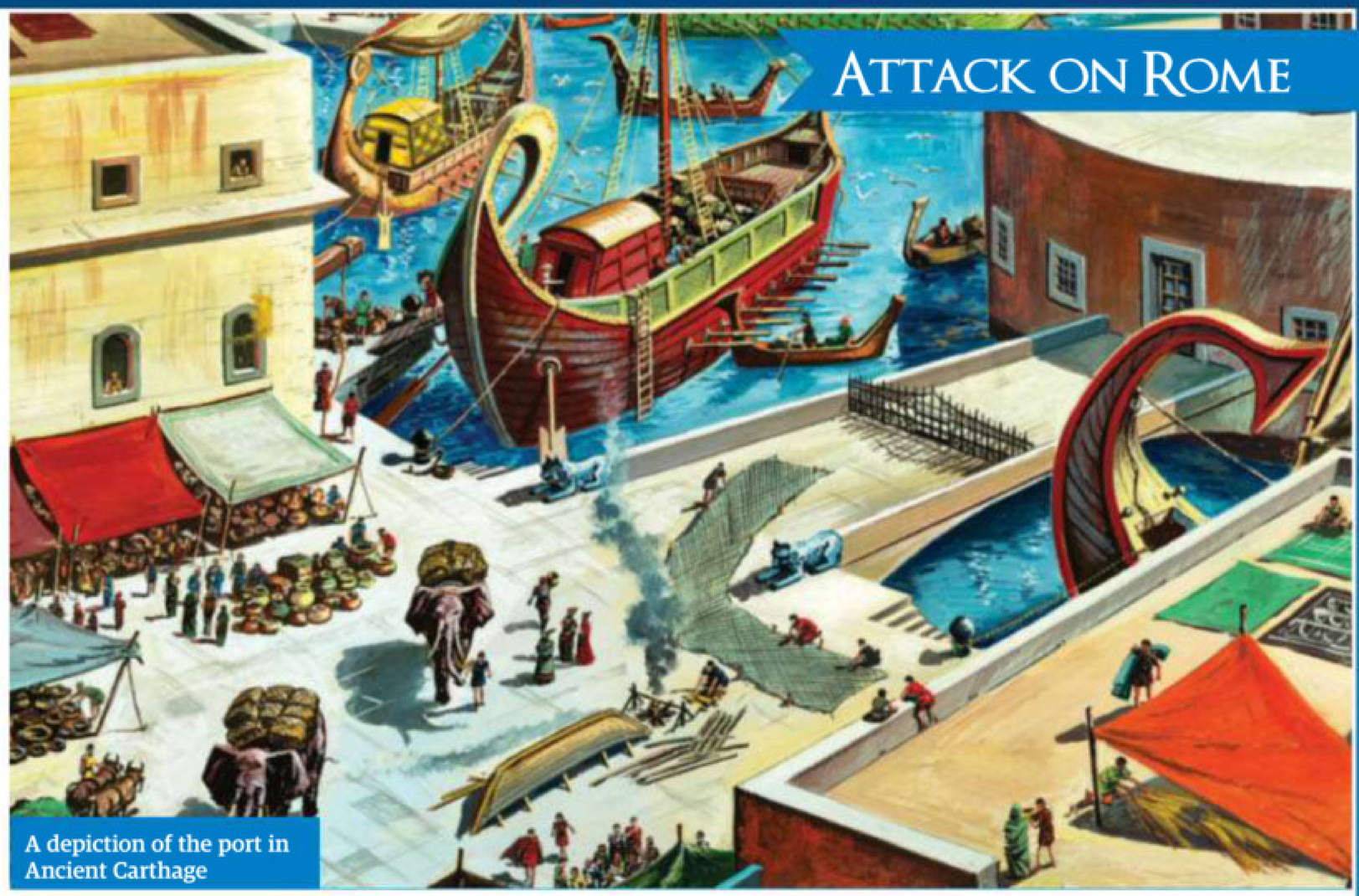
How to utilise mighty war elephants

1 Hannibal's elephants were usually set up right at the front of his three battle lines, protecting his frontline mercenaries and instilling fear in the opposition as the first thing they see.

2 Hannibal would set the elephants in a charge against the opposing front lines. This breaks the cohesion of the lines and allows Hannibal to exploit the opened gaps.

3 Opposition armies that have never encountered elephants before are thrown into disarray and panic. The fear alone could break their concentration and fighting spirit.

They were not invincible
Those who are prepared, however, use burning materials and squealing 'war pigs' to frighten them. Also, while elephants are tough, they're not invulnerable to weapons. Clever generals like Scipio realise that elephants only run in straight lines, and therefore create space to simply allow the beasts to pass right through their ranks.



A depiction of the port in Ancient Carthage



STRENGTHS IN BATTLE

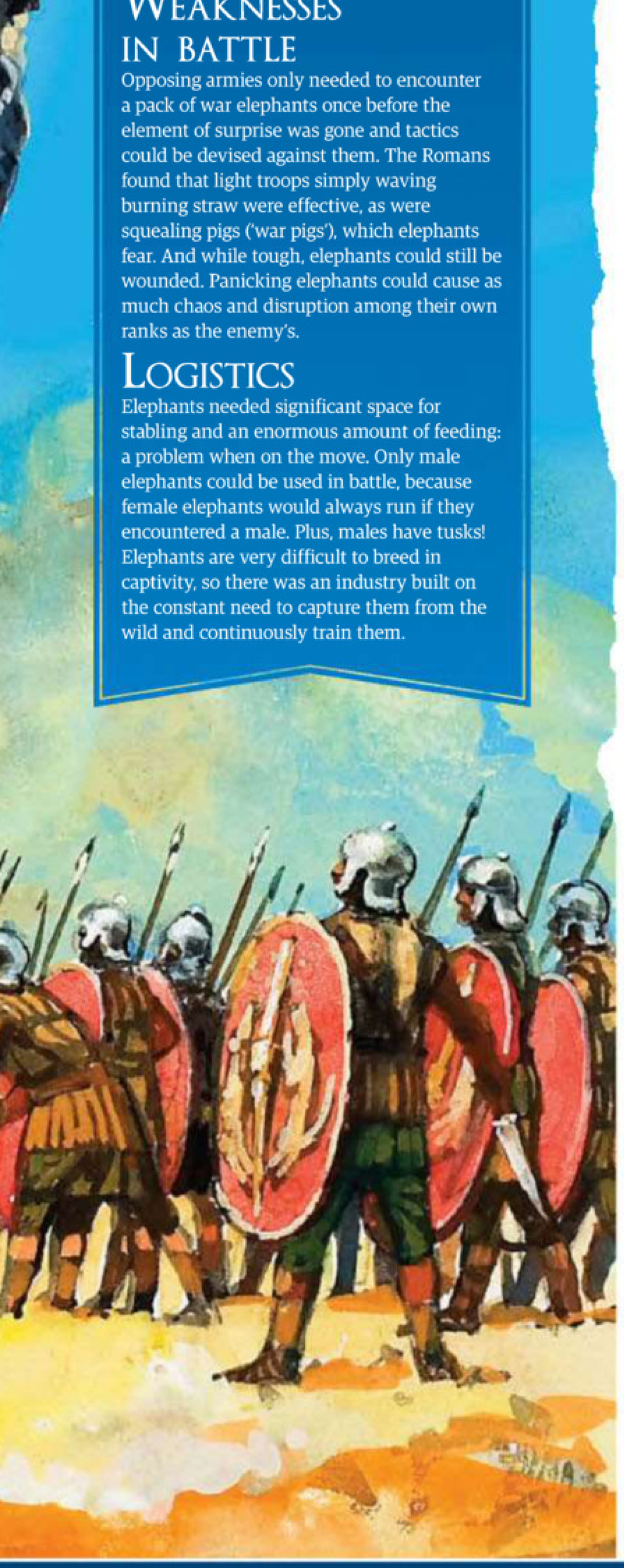
Elephants were essentially a terror weapon, used to strike fear and chaos into opposing armies that had never seen them before. They were particularly effective against horses, but also provided sturdy defence in a line of battle. An elephant charge could reach up to 32km/h (20mph) and, unlike a horse charge, could not be arrested by enemy spears.

WEAKNESSES IN BATTLE

Opposing armies only needed to encounter a pack of war elephants once before the element of surprise was gone and tactics could be devised against them. The Romans found that light troops simply waving burning straw were effective, as were squealing pigs ('war pigs'), which elephants fear. And while tough, elephants could still be wounded. Panicking elephants could cause as much chaos and disruption among their own ranks as the enemy's.

LOGISTICS

Elephants needed significant space for stabling and an enormous amount of feeding: a problem when on the move. Only male elephants could be used in battle, because female elephants would always run if they encountered a male. Plus, males have tusks! Elephants are very difficult to breed in captivity, so there was an industry built on the constant need to capture them from the wild and continuously train them.



in December, and how Hannibal deployed his depleted force once again served to demonstrate his extraordinary military skill. At the Battle of Trebbia, as the Romans rushed to confront him, he was vastly outnumbered but took advantage of the terrain. Finding a flat area of land with a hidden water course running through it, Hannibal charged toward the Roman camp and enraged the Romans so much that they were provoked into fighting unprepared, surprised at having to ford an ice-cold river into unfamiliar land. As they moved forward with their superior infantry they initially seemed to prevail against their smaller enemy, but Hannibal had hidden some of his soldiers in the water who then, as at the Rhone, rose up behind the enemy. Attacked from every angle - Hannibal also deftly flung his cavalry at one side of the Romans and his skirmishers at the other, as well as facing them head-on - the Romans lacked the manoeuvrability to turn around and were promptly crushed, suffering up to 32,000 casualties to Hannibal's 5,000. His march continued.

The Carthaginian general used similar tactics at the Battle of Lake Trasimene the following year, where the Romans pursued what they believed to be Hannibal's fleeing army into a valley close to the shore of the lake, only to find them silently waiting in the slopes above. The Romans were trapped by the terrain, and some were driven into the lake and drowned, while others had to simply stand and fight where they were until they were cut down. The Battle of Cannae in the spring of 216 BCE would be another decisive victory for Hannibal but it would also prove to be a fateful one. The Roman Scipio was among the opposition force and he vowed that he would never allow Hannibal to defeat him in battle.

> "HANNIBAL AND HIS FORCES COULD NOT REACH ITALY BY SEA, DUE TO THE INCREASING MIGHT OF ROME'S NAVAL FORCES. A LAND MARCH WAS HIS ONLY OPTION"

Cannae is justly famous as one of the most perfect battles of all time: a blueprint for future generals to emulate. The Romans brought twice as many troops into the field as previously, numbering about 70,000. Hannibal's troops, despite now being augmented by Gauls from the North of Italy, were nevertheless still 'only' 50,000 strong, but his great trick this time was to ambush the Romans without any use of terrain at all. Instead, he pulled off a double-envelopment: his weaker force once again able to surround his enemy by capturing the wings and then driving in from the sides.

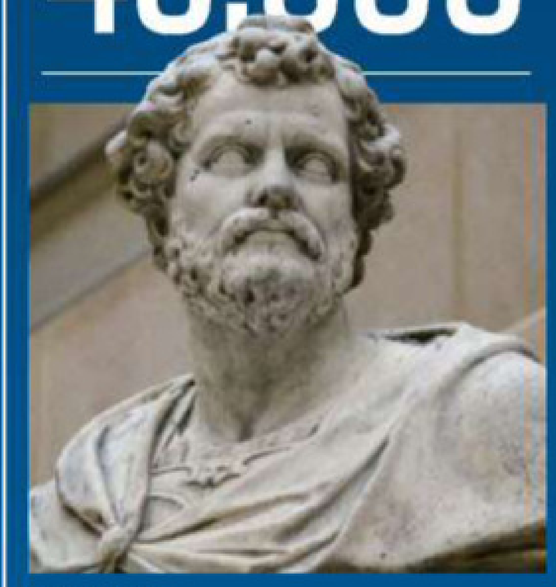
Stretching his battle lines into a crescent shape in front of the Romans, Hannibal lured the enemy in. Advancing into this formation, the Romans essentially allowed themselves to be encircled by the flanks and, finally, attacked from the rear by the Carthaginian cavalry. Even though the Romans significantly outnumbered the Carthaginians, they simply couldn't escape. About 100 people were killed every minute in the battle, with 50,000 Roman casualties and 12,000 Carthaginian.

Scipio, of course, was among the Roman survivors, as he had been at the earlier battles of Trebbia and Ticinus. Hannibal had been so successful that Rome had lost a full fifth of its military and was on the verge of surrender, but it was Scipio who, incensed by this news, stormed into a Roman senate meeting and at swordpoint forced those present to swear that Rome would continue fighting. Once he was given his own command at the age of just 25, he would never again see a Roman force defeated.

Following Cannae, Hannibal assumed Rome would capitulate and come to terms, but was confounded when they refused. The expectation was that Hannibal would then march on Rome

CARTHAGE

NUMBER OF TROOPS: 40,000



LEADER

HANNIBAL

Son of Hamilcar Barca, familiar with the battlefield since he was nine years old and a Carthaginian general at the age of 25.

Strength Superior numbers; undefeated in many prior battles; tactical genius; 80 war elephants.

Weakness Tactics becoming known through overuse; varying loyalties among mercenary troops; elephants untrained and liable to cause chaos.

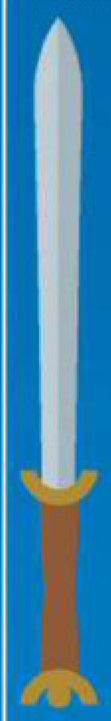
KEY UNIT

VETERANS

Hannibal's third line comprised the veterans of his previous campaigns. They included the survivors of his Italian victories, as well as Libyans, Iberians and Gauls. They were the most hardened of all his troops.

Strength Experience and steadfastness. They refused to retreat, electing to fight to their death.

Weakness Age; arrogance born of being undefeated; outmatched when hemmed in by Roman cavalry.



KEY WEAPON

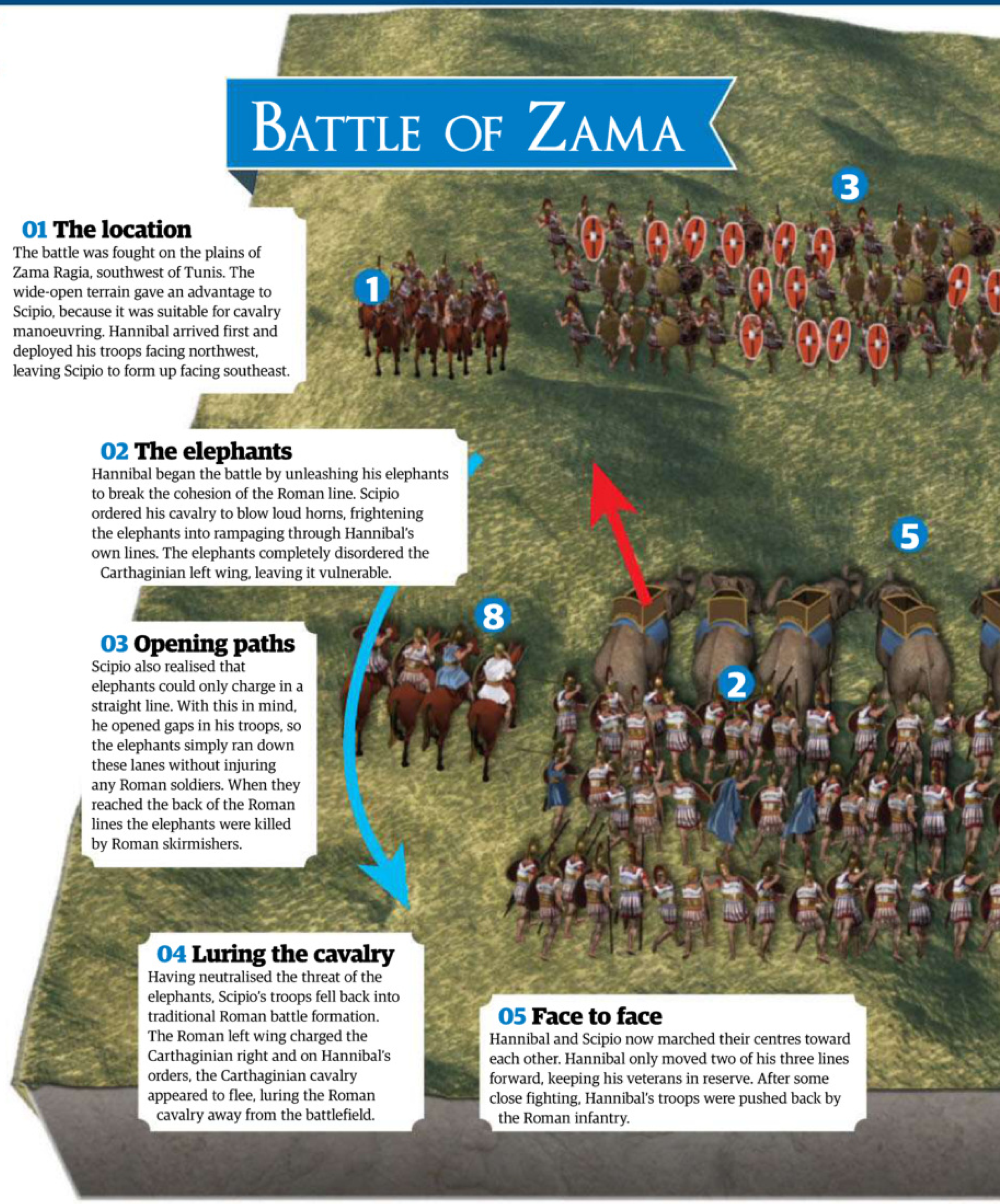
CELTIC SWORD

Much of Hannibal's army was made up of Celts (known to the Romans as Gauls) from Western Europe. They frequently fought naked and their weapon of choice was an 80cm (31in)-long double-edged sword.

Strength Could be used for slashing, swinging, and hacking like an axe.

Weakness Its length and method of use required space, so close-quarters could be tricky.

BATTLE OF ZAMA



01 The location

The battle was fought on the plains of Zama Ragia, southwest of Tunis. The wide-open terrain gave an advantage to Scipio, because it was suitable for cavalry manoeuvring. Hannibal arrived first and deployed his troops facing northwest, leaving Scipio to form up facing southeast.

02 The elephants

Hannibal began the battle by unleashing his elephants to break the cohesion of the Roman line. Scipio ordered his cavalry to blow loud horns, frightening the elephants into rampaging through Hannibal's own lines. The elephants completely disordered the Carthaginian left wing, leaving it vulnerable.

03 Opening paths

Scipio also realised that elephants could only charge in a straight line. With this in mind, he opened gaps in his troops, so the elephants simply ran down these lanes without injuring any Roman soldiers. When they reached the back of the Roman lines the elephants were killed by Roman skirmishers.

04 Luring the cavalry

Having neutralised the threat of the elephants, Scipio's troops fell back into traditional Roman battle formation. The Roman left wing charged the Carthaginian right and on Hannibal's orders, the Carthaginian cavalry appeared to flee, luring the Roman cavalry away from the battlefield.

05 Face to face

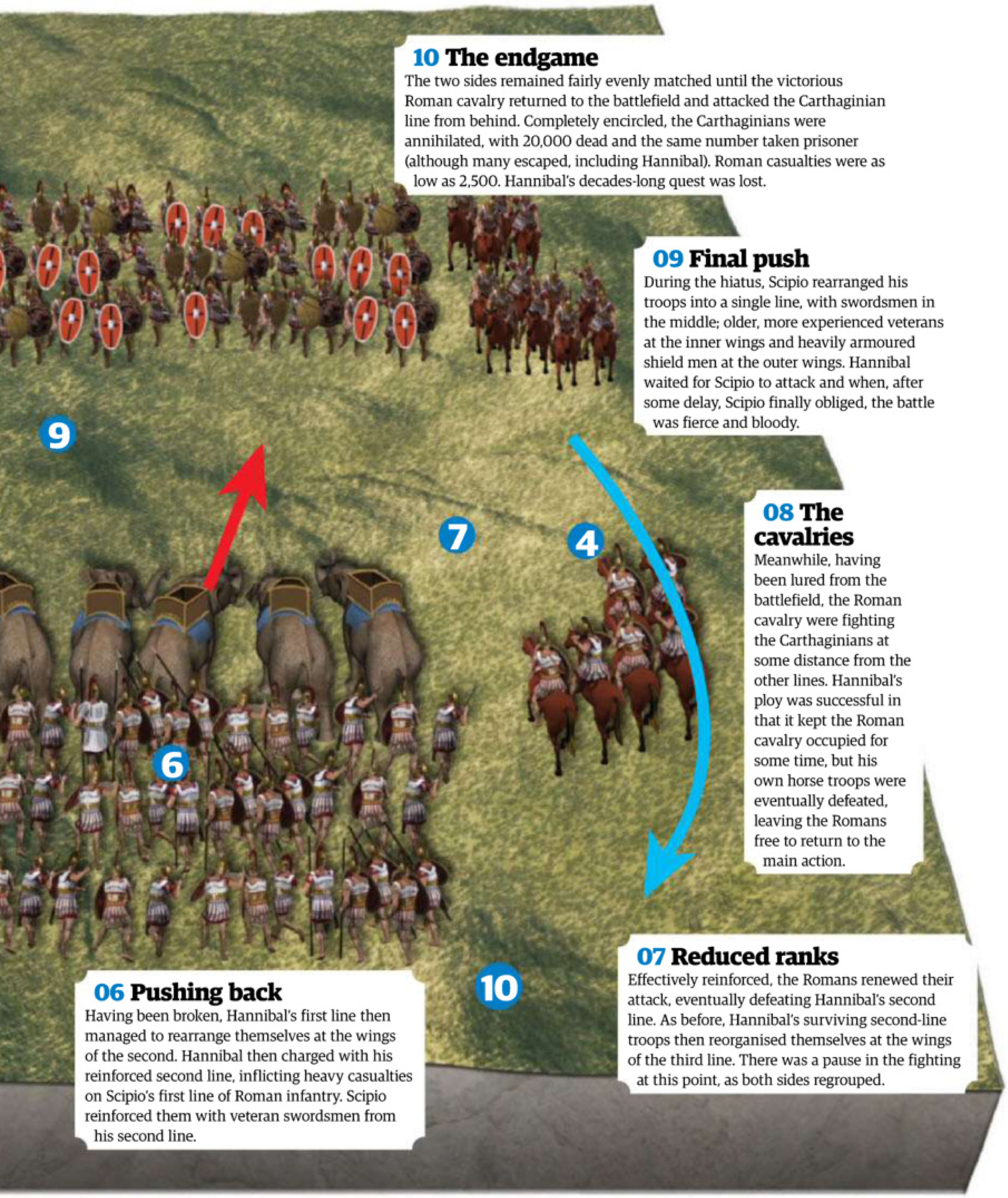
Hannibal and Scipio now marched their centres toward each other. Hannibal only moved two of his three lines forward, keeping his veterans in reserve. After some close fighting, Hannibal's troops were pushed back by the Roman infantry.

"HANNIBAL [...] WOULD ACHIEVE SUCH STAGGERING SUCCESS THAT HE THREATENED TO DESTROY THE POWER OF THE ROMANS COMPLETELY"

and bring it to its knees, but after his losses in the Alps and subsequent battles, he didn't have enough troops to have tactical flexibility, or to mount a siege, which would have meant keeping his army provisioned in one place for a long time. Having proved time and time again that he could destroy the Roman army in battle, Hannibal was stumped by the Romans simply being intractable. Incredibly, this stand-off kept Hannibal treading water in Italy for 14 years following Cannae. While during that time his armies fought 22 major battles in Italy and won most of them (losing none, at least), Rome remained steadfast in its opposition, so Hannibal's victories actually inconvenienced him, since his conquests made him responsible for many new allies he had to protect against the Romans.

By 210 BCE, Rome had realised the value of attacking Carthaginian targets back in Spain and North Africa, and Scipio, with his humanitarian conduct toward prisoners and hostages, made a good job of spinning Rome as a liberator rather than conqueror. Gradually deserted by its allies and harried by a revivified Roman force, Carthage rejected Scipio's moderate terms for surrender and recalled Hannibal home from Italy, bringing his war full circle.

Hannibal arrived back in Carthage for his final showdown with a force of 40,000 men and 80



10 The endgame

The two sides remained fairly evenly matched until the victorious Roman cavalry returned to the battlefield and attacked the Carthaginian line from behind. Completely encircled, the Carthaginians were annihilated, with 20,000 dead and the same number taken prisoner (although many escaped, including Hannibal). Roman casualties were as low as 2,500. Hannibal's decades-long quest was lost.

09 Final push

During the hiatus, Scipio rearranged his troops into a single line, with swordsmen in the middle; older, more experienced veterans at the inner wings and heavily armoured shield men at the outer wings. Hannibal waited for Scipio to attack and when, after some delay, Scipio finally obliged, the battle was fierce and bloody.

08 The cavalries

Meanwhile, having been lured from the battlefield, the Roman cavalry were fighting the Carthaginians at some distance from the other lines. Hannibal's ploy was successful in that it kept the Roman cavalry occupied for some time, but his own horse troops were eventually defeated, leaving the Romans free to return to the main action.

07 Reduced ranks

Effectively reinforced, the Romans renewed their attack, eventually defeating Hannibal's second line. As before, Hannibal's surviving second-line troops then reorganised themselves at the wings of the third line. There was a pause in the fighting at this point, as both sides regrouped.

06 Pushing back

Having been broken, Hannibal's first line then managed to rearrange themselves at the wings of the second. Hannibal then charged with his reinforced second line, inflicting heavy casualties on Scipio's first line of Roman infantry. Scipio reinforced them with veteran swordsmen from his second line.

elephants, for once outnumbering the Romans under Scipio, who numbered 35,000. And yet it was Scipio, having meticulously studied Hannibal's tactics in previous years and battles, that was able to win the day at the fateful Battle of Zama on 19 October 202 BCE.

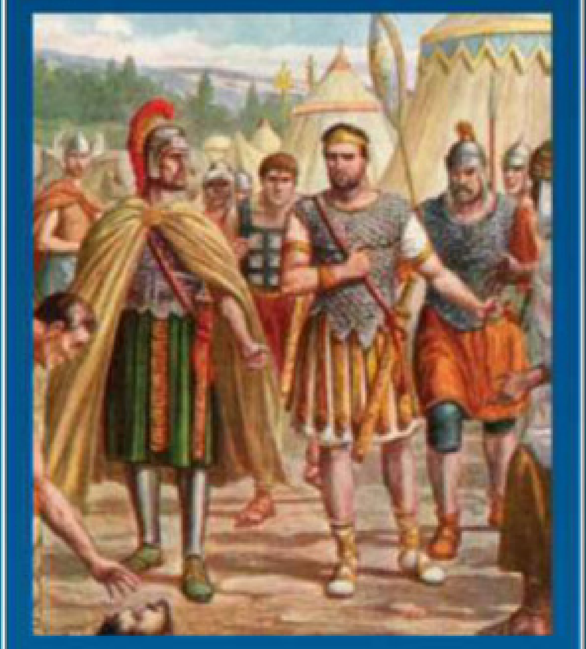
It was a meeting of two of the greatest generals of the era, but an engagement Hannibal was destined to lose. Scipio negated the power of Hannibal's elephants by terrorising them with loud trumpets, sending them into chaos among Hannibal's own ranks. The rest he simply lured through gaps in his own lines and killed once they reached the back. The Roman and Carthaginian lines fought fiercely, while Hannibal's plan to lure the Roman cavalry from the battlefield seemed to be working. However, when the Roman cavalry defeated their Carthaginian opposite numbers and returned to the centre of the fray, Hannibal's forces were finally annihilated.

The last major battle of the Second Punic War resulted in a loss of respect for Hannibal among his own people. Scipio's very modest conditions of defeat – many Romans had expected him to raze Carthage to the ground – were that Carthage could no longer battle for Mediterranean supremacy and would pay lasting financial tributes to Rome. Hannibal was pushed into exile, acting like a kind of warfare consultant, seeking out kings attempting to resist Roman rule and offering his expertise and his services. Following some adventures in Syria and Armenia, he was faced with being handed over to Rome in 182 BCE, but took poison and his own life rather than be captured.

Scipio, coincidentally, died at around the same time, following a turbulent political life and a quieter retirement. His legacy is as the man who finally defeated Hannibal. Hannibal's, meanwhile, is as one of history's greatest military tacticians: the underdog who almost defeated an empire.

ROME

NUMBER OF TROOPS: 35,000



LEADER

SCIPIO

Roman general and statesman, and a survivor of the disastrous battles at Ticinus, Trebbia and Cannae by the time he was just 20 years old.

Strength Large cavalry; preparation and intricate study of opposition tactics; favourable terrain.

Weakness Small infantry; cavalry lured from battlefield; no elephants.

KEY UNIT

HASTATI

The youngest and most inexperienced of the Roman troops, so they were stuck in the front line to soak up the first volleys in the action.

Strength Supported by light troops and backed by the hardier and more experienced principes.

Weakness Often the poorest soldiers as well as the youngest, their equipment was cheap and modest.

KEY WEAPON

PILA

The pilum was a 2m (6.6ft) javelin with a 60cm (23.6in) pyramidal head and a wooden shaft. Total weight was 2-5kg (4.4-11lb). Unlike most javelins, it could penetrate a shield.

Strengths The shape of the head meant they couldn't easily be removed from a shield – or a body.

Weakness Once thrown or embedded in something (or someone), the wielder had to abandon it for good and resort to a short sword.

HISTORY ANSWERS

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Cleopatra was a member of the Ptolemaic dynasty, which ruled Egypt after Alexander the Great's death

CLEOPATRA

Egyptian 69-30 BCE

Brief Bio

The last active pharaoh of Egypt, Cleopatra was famed for her great beauty and relations with the Roman Empire, most notably with Julius Caesar and Mark Antony. After unsuccessfully challenging Emperor Octavius of Rome, she committed suicide rather than be taken prisoner.

How did Cleopatra die?

Sarah Parish, London

The accepted story of the Egyptian queen's death is that it was caused by the bite of an asp, a type of snake. This myth has been heavily propagated over time – perhaps most notably in William Shakespeare's play *Antony And Cleopatra* – although doubt has been cast on whether it was actually a snake bite that led to her demise, especially in more recent times.

Although it was almost certainly self-administered poison that was the method of suicide, the precise manner of the act has been argued over. The Greek historian Plutarch reported that two slight pricks were found on her arm, which could have caused by a poisonous pin or comb, although notable Roman historians such as Suetonius and Florus strongly favoured the snake account.

Regardless, there's certainly a case for both methods. Snake iconography was heavily linked to the goddess Isis – who Cleopatra considered herself to be the reincarnation of – so it's possible to see how the associated symbolism would have appealed to her. On the other hand, poisoning by snake was a slow, painful and disfiguring death, and considering Cleopatra's dedication to putting on an impressive spectacle, this would have been a strange choice of suicide method.

Apart from London, which was the most severely damaged British city in WWII?

John Burns, Hartlepool

Hull is credited by being the most bombed city in the United Kingdom during World War II – save for London – as well as having suffered the most attacked city per 'head', with around 90 per cent of its buildings having some form of bomb damage inflicted on them.

It was targeted for a number of reasons. First, it was a known industrial centre and contained a number of strategic targets, including water and gas works, a number of docks, the Saltend oil refinery and the Sculcoates power station. Second, it was an easy target, marked out by its docks and location between two rivers. Finally, it was also the simple result of bad luck – on one occasion it was mistaken for the nearby town of Goole, and German pilots looking to let loose their bombs, having missed their original targets, would often use the unfortunate city as a handy dumping ground.



Hull was a major target of the Luftwaffe during WWII

This day in history 24 July

1567 – Queen Mary abdicates

Mary, Queen of Scots is forced to abdicate the throne of Scotland. She is replaced by her one-year-old son, who becomes James VI of Scotland. She would later fail to retake the throne.

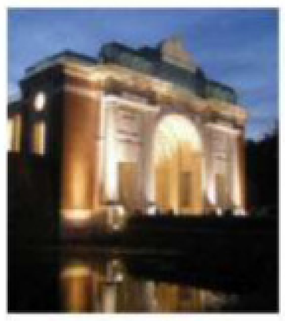


1911 – Machu Picchu discovered

American academic and explorer – and possible inspiration for movie icon Indiana Jones – Hiram Bingham III discovers the Lost City of the Incas, better known to many as Machu Picchu in Peru.

1927 – Menin Gate unveiled

Dedicated to the British and Commonwealth forces that lost their lives at the Battles of Ypres in WWI, this memorial was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield and was unveiled on this day in the town of Ypres in Belgium.



1929 – Kellogg-Briand Pact

Initially signed by France, Germany and the USA, this treaty was effectively a non-aggression pact, promising not to resort to war to resolve any issues they might have. As WWII would later uncompromisingly testify, this treaty had little effect.

WHEN WAS THE FIRST UK SPEEDING FINE ISSUED?

1896

Did Sawney Bean exist?

Greg Taylor, York
Although a popular bogeyman in Scottish folklore, conclusive evidence for the real-life basis of Alexander 'Sawney' Bean – who along with his cannibalistic clan reportedly murdered and ate over 1,000 people – is thin to the point of nonexistence.

Bean's legend grew thanks to the publication of the *The Newgate Calendar*, which chronicles the various crimes committed by the inmates of London's Newgate Prison. However, although the text goes into detail about Bean's life, there is no historical documentation to support it, nor is there any record of the many disappearances supposedly taking place at the time.

It is still possible that Bean existed at a different time, or that his story was inspired by some real-life occurrence and subsequently exaggerated.



The construction of Stonehenge could have taken place anywhere between 3000 and 2000 BCE

How was Stonehenge built?

Helen Armitage, Bath
Although we don't know for sure, judging by archaeological excavation and our own knowledge of the time periods in which Stonehenge was built, historians postulate that the construction process involved three stages. The culmination of the first phase was the creation of a large circular ditch measuring around 86.5 metres (284 feet) in diameter. Just inside, a bank made of chalk taken from the ditches was used to form a bank, with a series of 56 holes (known as 'Aubrey holes') being dug just inside.

After around 1,000 years of inactivity, the next phase began. Over 80 granite bluestones were transported from the Preseli Mountains in Wales, initially on rollers and sledges before being transported via raft to Warminster, with these land and water-traversing methods being repeated until they reached the site near Salisbury. From there, the stones were dragged to the centre to form a semicircle.

About 150 years later, sarsen stones were set up in the outer circle. Much heavier than the bluestones (some weighed as much as 50 tons, compared to the bluestones' four tons), the only feasible method of transportation was sledges and ropes, and the manpower required would have had to number in the high hundreds.

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How far did the Vikings travel?

Frank Hutchinson, Washington
Of all the far-flung destinations the Vikings managed to reach, the most distant of them was Newfoundland, North America, which they then referred to as Vinland.

The accounts of this expedition are mixed: while it is generally accepted that the historic discovery was led by Leifur Eiriksson, son of the renowned Viking lord Eirikur the Red, in around 1000 CE, other sources claim merchant Bjarni Herjolfsson spotted the land – although didn't land there – and informed Leifur, who subsequently made the discovery and took the glory.



The Vikings reached North America 500 years before Columbus



What part did Charles II play in the Great Fire of London? Find out at...
historyanswers.co.uk

1943

Allies bomb Hamburg
This attack, codenamed Operation Gomorrah, proves to be extremely devastating, resulting in the virtual destruction of the entire German city. 42,600 civilians are killed, while around 37,000 are injured.



1969

Apollo 11 returns
After having successfully completed its mission of reaching the Moon – with astronaut Neil Armstrong becoming the first man to stand on its surface – the crew of Apollo 11 land safely in the Pacific Ocean.



1974

Nixon in trouble
President Richard Nixon is ordered by the Supreme Court to release tape recordings of conversations that had taken place in the White House about the ongoing Watergate scandal. This would lead to him resigning the presidency.

2013

Spanish train tragedy
A train travelling from Madrid to Ferrol derails after rounding a corner with a 80km/h (50mph) speed limit at 190km/h (120mph). 78 people lose their lives in the crash and the train driver is later charged with homicide.

© Getty: Jay Wong

ALL ABOUT

YOUR HISTORY

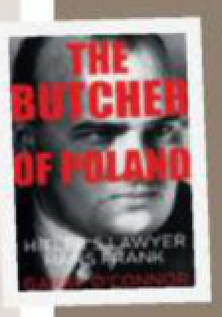
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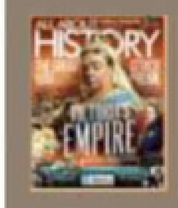
Albert (far right on the back row) and his crew pose for a picture

The bombing of Heligoland, Germany

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AMAZING STORIES

A humble hero of the skies



Richard Severn

Albert William Hallam was a relative of my mother's. Unfortunately I never met him but from what I was told and the research I have done into his life, he was without a doubt a remarkable, humble man and served his country with great distinction during the Second World War and after.

Albert left his job as a draughtsman at John Player and Son in Beeston, Nottingham to join the RAF in late 1942. Like a lot of young men at that time he considered service in the forces as an evil necessity. He completed his aircrew training in bomber command quickly and was commissioned in 1943 as a flight engineer in 466 Squadron (RAF) crew 186. The 466 Squadron was made up of Australian, Canadian and British personnel.

Crew 186 had the following crew members:
Pilot - A Hollings (DFC)
Bomb aimer - FJA Redman (DFC)
Navigator - RY Kenyon (DFC)
Wireless op - FW Blake (DFC)
Rear gunners - AC Walters (DFC), NP Range, CJ Johnston (DFC), VD Bullen
Mid-upper gunner - RT Marlow (DFC)
Flight engineer - AW Hallam (DFC)

Albert was to fly over 20 bombing missions in a Halifax bomber over Germany and Italy and in 1944 was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) for "gallantry and devotion to duty throughout many sorties with the enemy".

The official citation read:

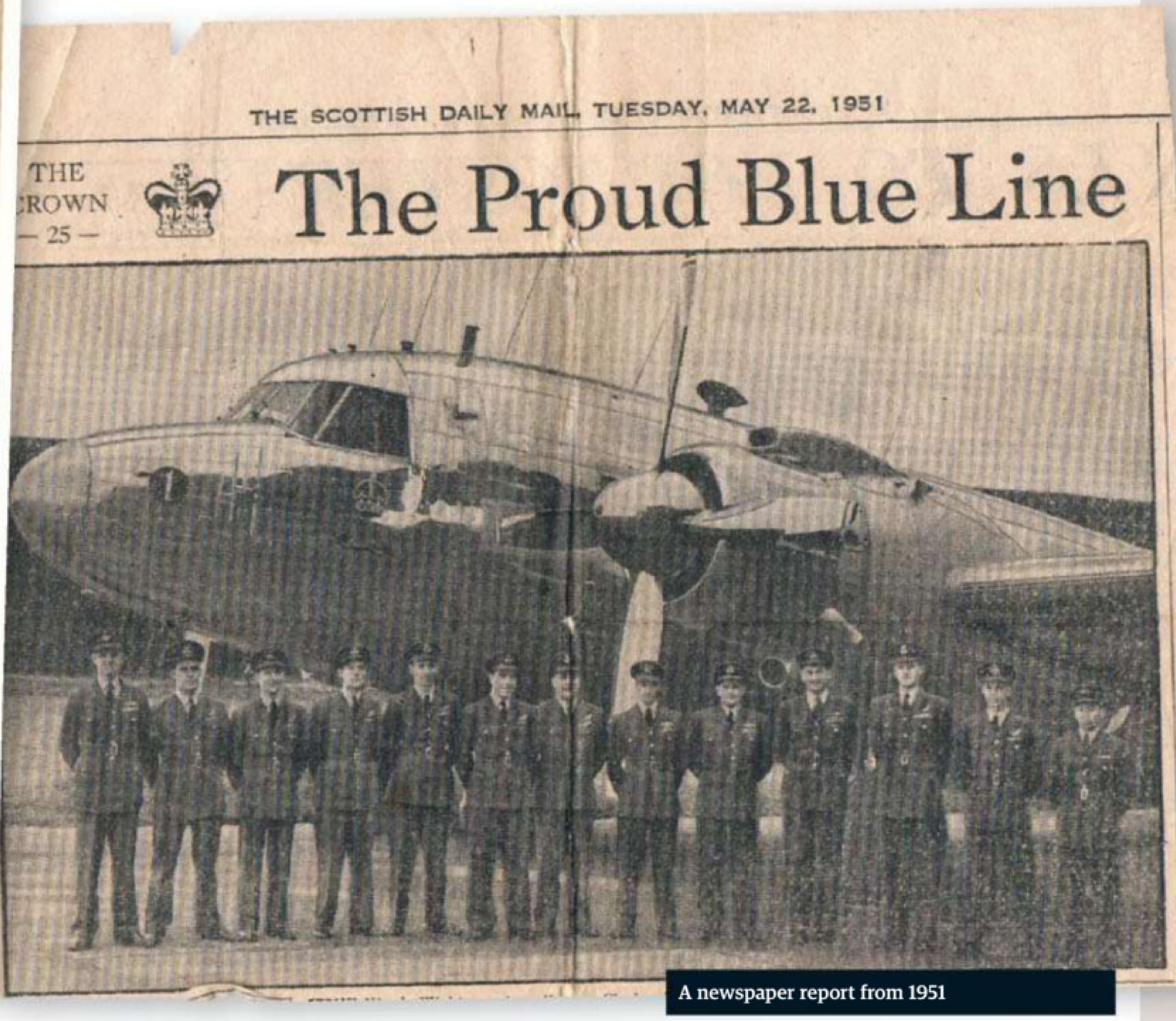
> "This officer [Hallam] has proved himself to be an outstanding flight engineer. He has completed many sorties including five over Berlin. On one mission to Stuttgart his skilful assistance enabled his captain to continue the flight and complete the attack despite the failure of one engine. In similar circumstances while attacking Milan he again displayed exceptional ability. His energy and zeal have always been most commendable."

One of the biggest raids Albert flew in was the bombing of the German island Heligoland on 18 April 1845, which had a large naval base on it. A total of 969 bombers attacked the island, bombing the naval base and town, and by the time the raid had finished the island resembled a crater-ridden moonscape. The next day the Germans evacuated

Send your memories to: @ allabouthistory@imagine-publishing.co.uk



Albert was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross



THE SCOTTISH DAILY MAIL, TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1951

THE CROWN
— 25 —

The Proud Blue Line

A newspaper report from 1951

the island. The Allies lost three Halifax bombers in this attack.

What really stands out was the frequency the crews flew their missions. When looking at Albert's combat record you could see that on several occasions three or four missions were flown on consecutive days. On the 11, 12 and 13 March 1945 Albert flew raids against Essen, Dortmund and Wuppertal and only three days previous he had flown another mission against Hamburg. The raids were generally eight-hour round trips, so the mental strain on Albert and the rest of the crews must have been immense, constantly on the watch for enemy fighter planes or dodging anti-aircraft fire, not to mention the physical demands of hours of flying in the cramped, confined conditions of the Halifax bomber.

At the end of the war, when he was due for demobilisation, he made a request for extended service. This was accepted and lead to his promotion to flight lieutenant. The monotony of peacetime Britain did not appeal to him; he was looking for new challenges in the RAF.

This is what Albert got: During the early part of 1946 he was assigned to fly with No 24 Squadron, which were equipped with Lancasters. This was an RAF transport command and their job was to transport foreign-office documents between Britain and Moscow, every day except Sunday. In the early hours of each morning, a plane from the squadron based at Bassingbourn would leave for Moscow carrying memoranda and their couriers, and would arrive by lunchtime. They would then fly back with correspondence from the Russian government, land in Britain by dawn and all documents would be at the foreign office in London, before the working day began.

But there was one more major achievement for Albert and this was when he was selected to be a flight officer on the king's flight in 1951, which flew out from RAF Benson in Oxfordshire. On numerous occasions he was part of the crew that flew King George VI and the royal family around the country for various royal engagements. Albert found himself transporting the royals from London to Balmoral on numerous occasions.

What I found amazing was that after speaking to family who had met Albert he never mentioned in any great detail what he did while in the Royal Air Force. He was without doubt a man of remarkable humility and served his country with great distinction and pride.



The Handley Page Halifax was a four-engined heavy bomber used in WWII

Do you have military history in your family?

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HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

THE YOUNG VICTORIA

Director: Jean-Marc Vallée **Starring:** Emily Blunt, Rupert Friend, Paul Bettany **Country of origin:** UK, USA **Year made:** 2009

Would Queen Victoria proclaim herself amused by this award-winning depiction of her early life?



What they got right

The scene where King William IV insults Victoria's mother did not only happen in real life, but most of the speech uttered in the film is what he actually said. However, in the film Victoria sits quietly, but in reality she burst into tears and, far from the muted reactions in the film, the guests present were aghast.

WHAT THEY GOT WRONG...

01 Lord Melbourne, portrayed by Paul Bettany, appears to be a similar age to Victoria, but the real Melbourne was 38 years older than her. The flirtation between them is also an exaggeration, as Victoria is known to have compared Melbourne to a father figure.

02 The portrait Albert is given of Victoria before he meets her features an image of the young queen in a white dress with a tiara. In fact, the portrait referenced was not commissioned until 1842, and Albert himself designed the tiara placed in her bun.

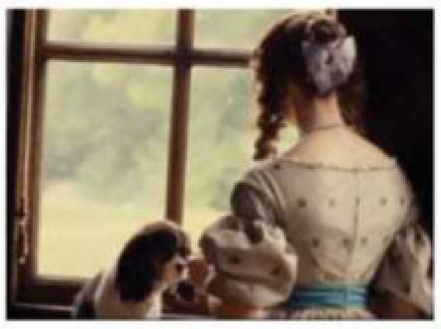
03 The backs of the women's dresses show the thin seam line of a zipper. The first zipper wasn't patented until 1851. Victoria married Albert in 1840 so there's no way her dresses or those of any other ladies of that period would feature zippers.

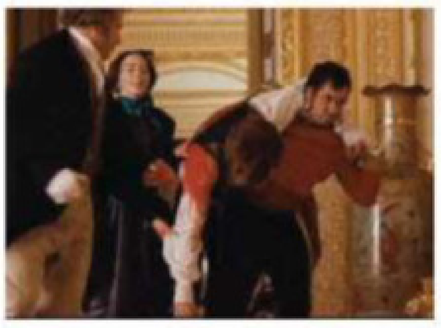
04 A sequence shows a bloodied and injured Albert carried to the palace after being shot in an assassination attempt. There were many attempts to kill Victoria and Albert, but they were unsuccessful and both emerged uninjured from all of them.

05 Many characters mention and speak to Albert about Germany, but Germany was not a unified country until 1871 – long after he met Victoria in 1836. Albert lived in and was Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, which is how it would have been referred to.







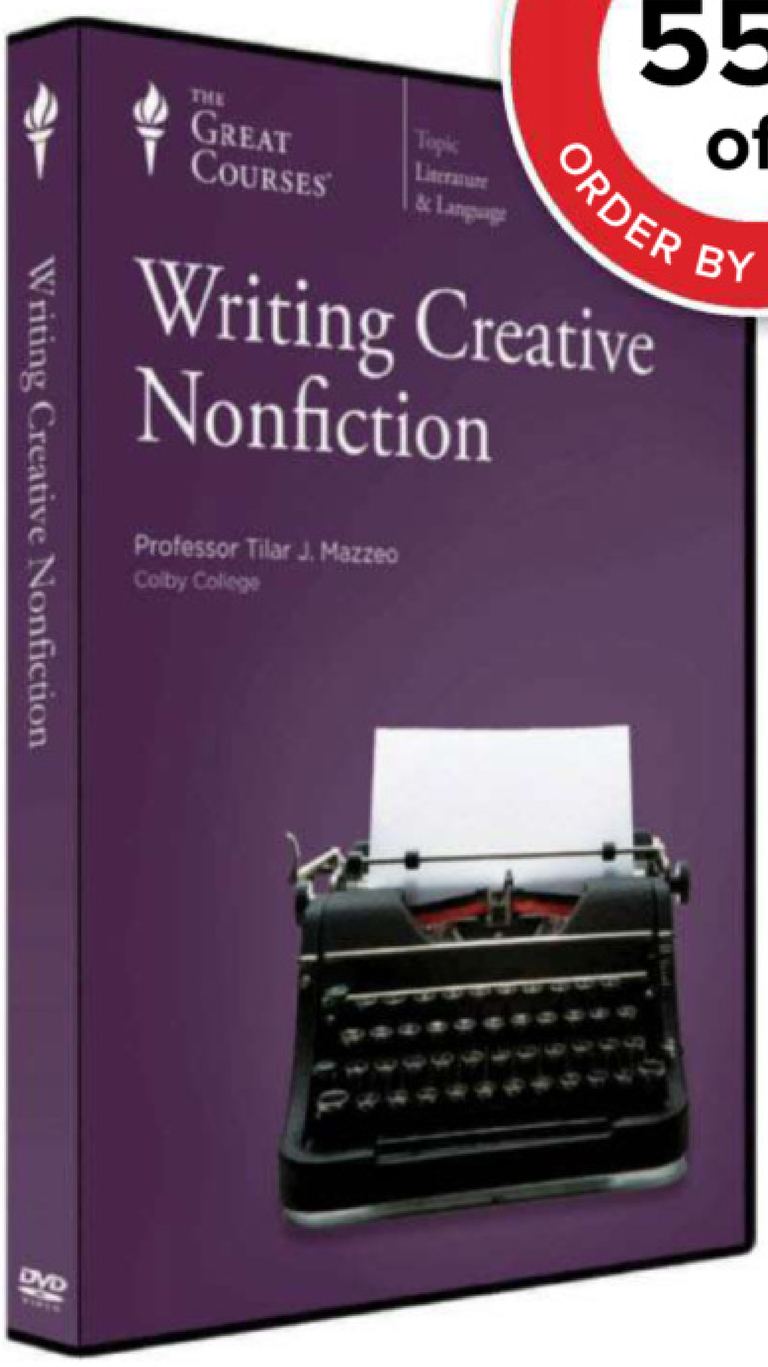




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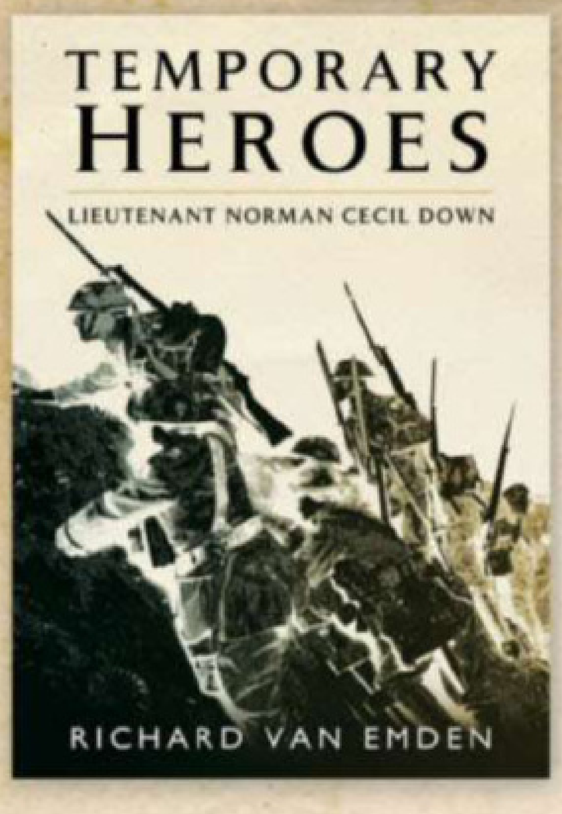
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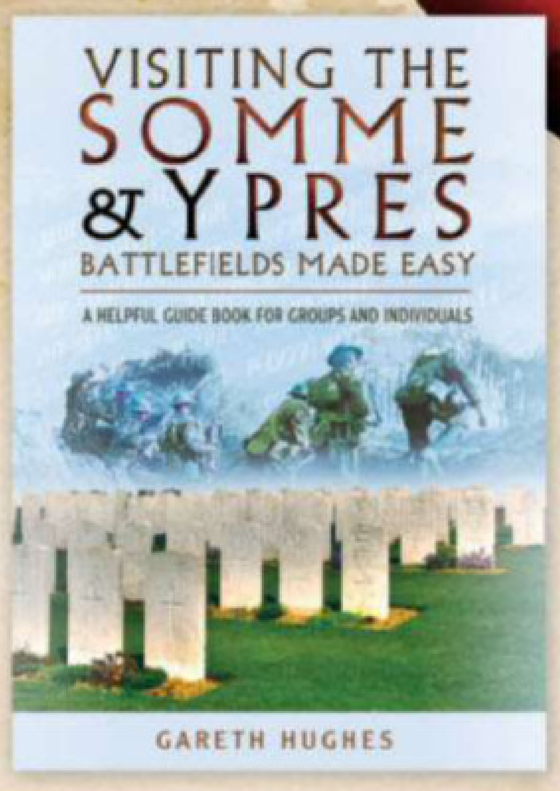
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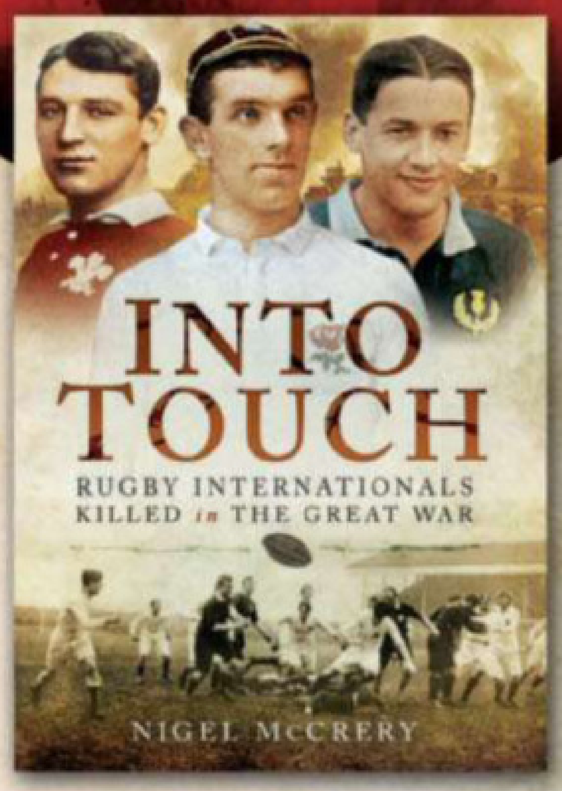
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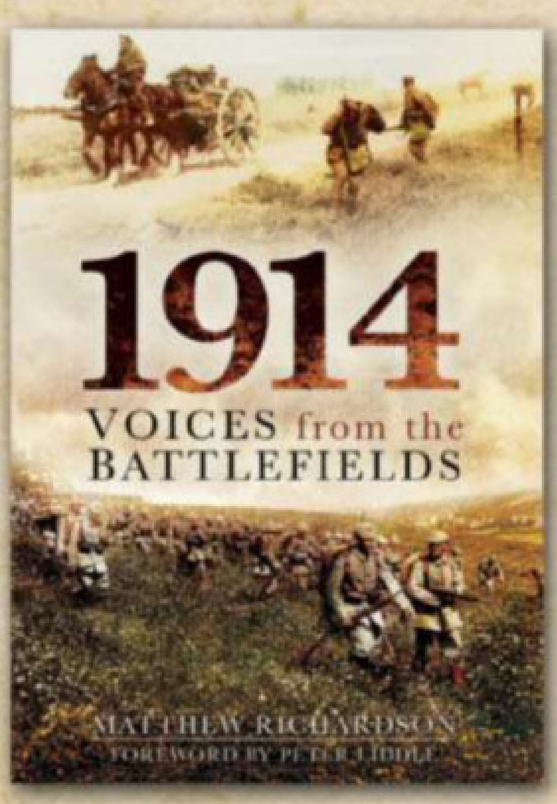
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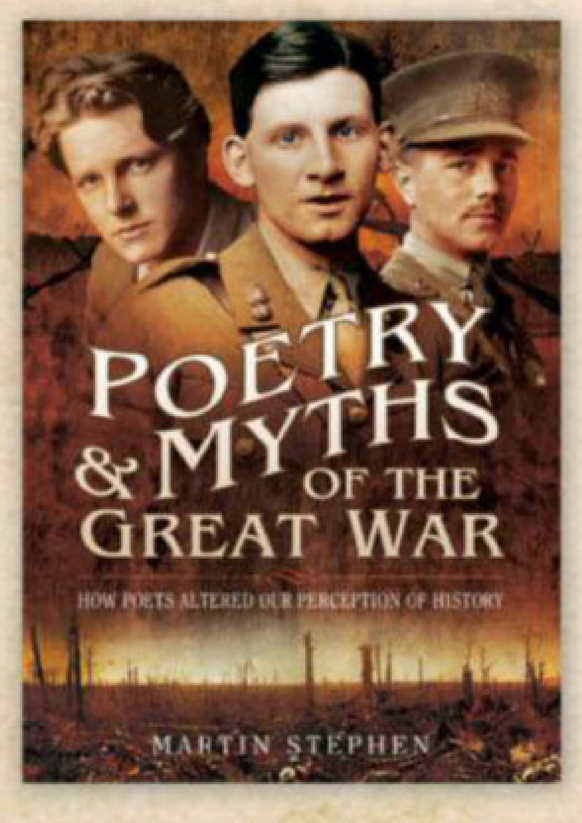
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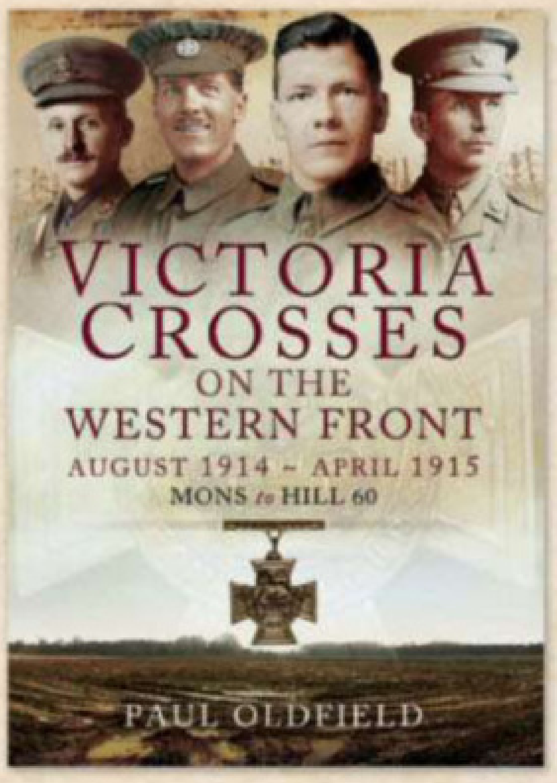
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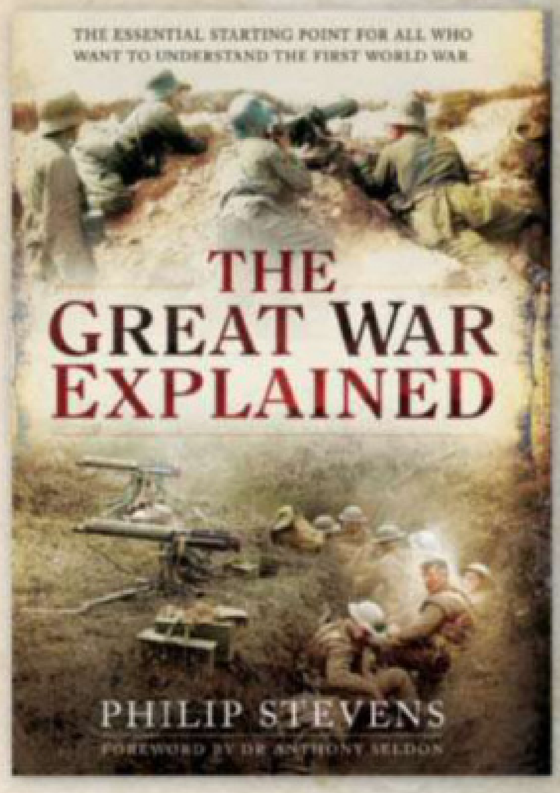
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